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SERIALS 1-

100-HQ-259318

SECTION 1

FEDERAL BUREAU

of

INVESTIGATION

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FORM #

932941

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FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

Form No. 1

THIS CASE ORIGINATED AT

LOS ANGELES

FILE NO. 100-13342

REPORT MADE AT LOS ANGELES	DATE WHEN MADE 8/4/42	PERIOD FOR WHICH MADE 8/3/42	REPORT MADE BY JAMES G. FINDLAY rid
TITLE CARROLL HOLLISTER RUTH HOLLISTER, alias Mrs. Carroll Hollister			CHARACTER OF CASE INTERNAL SECURITY - R

SYNOPSIS OF FACTS: CARROLL HOLLISTER, Chairman of the Sub-Committee for the Canteen, Civilian Defense Committee, Local 47, A.F. of M., has established himself at 1521 N. Detroit Street, Hollywood, California. He has contacted the Studio Transportation Drivers Union 319, at 672 Santa Monica Boulevard, Los Angeles, and advised that the Musicians Union, Local 47, A.F. of M. through its Committee for Civilian Defense, is initiating steps for the establishment of a service men's canteen on the lines of the Stage Door Canteen now functioning in New York City.

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REFERENCE: Report of Special Agent F. J. Keeney, Los Angeles, June 16, 1942.

DETAILS: AT LOS ANGELES

X Conf. Inft. [redacted] called Agent's attention to the fact that Local 399 of the Studio Transportation Drivers' Union, A.F. of M., had received a letter from CARROLL HOLLISTER, Chairman, Sub-Committee for the Canteen, 1521 North Detroit Street, Hollywood, California, with which letter he submitted a tentative program for a "canteen for democracy" which he proposed to organize and set up.

The letter of HOLLISTER, together with the plan of the canteen are being copied herein and the original letter and plan are being retained in the Los Angeles file:

923947
 ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED
 HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED
 DATE 2-1-01 BY 5063EIN/HR

APPROVED AND FORWARDED:	SPECIAL AGENT IN CHARGE	DO NOT WRITE IN THESE SPACES	
COPIES OF THIS REPORT 5 - Bureau 2 - New York City 3 - Los Angeles		<div style="font-size: 2em; text-align: center;">100-259318-</div> <div style="text-align: center; font-size: 1.5em;">JAN 4 - 1943</div>	
1-ONI, San Diego 1-ONI, Los Angeles 1-G-2, San Francisco 1-G-2, Los Angeles		<div style="text-align: right;">RECORDED</div> <div style="text-align: right;">INDEXED</div>	

X Hollywood Canteen

ORIGINAL FILED IN 100-105058-4

"

CIVILIAN DEFENSE COMMITTEE
Local 47, A.F. of M.
Los Angeles, Calif.

July 10, 1942

Studio Transportation Drivers Union No. 399
6472 Santa Monica Blvd.
Los Angeles, California

Gentlemen:

The Musicians' Union, Local 47 A.F. of M., through its Committee for Civilian Defense is initiating steps for the establishment of a service men's canteen on the general lines of the 'Stage Door Canteen' now functioning in New York City. This committee has been authorized by the Executive Board of the union to contact trade unions and other groups, with a view to calling a conference to discuss plans for the organization of such a canteen at the earliest possible date.

We hope that you will be able to cooperate with us on this project, which would represent such a valuable contribution from the Los Angeles community to the morale of our fighting forces, and we are therefore suggesting that you arrange to take up this matter for consideration at your next regular meeting.

We would appreciate it if you will communicate with us further in regard to this matter as soon as possible.

Yours sincerely,

S/ CARROLL HOLLISTER
Carroll Hollister, Chairman
Sub-committee for the Canteen

Address communications to:
1521 N. Detroit Street
Hollywood, Calif.

P.S. For your information I enclose a copy of a report made to our committee, with the general outline of our proposals.

"

"

'CANTEENS FOR DEMOCRACY'

Perhaps not many of the members of our union have heard of the unique 'Stage Door Canteen' in New York -- a new sort of 'people's night club' that has been created by the people of Broadway for the people of the armies, navies and air forces of the United States and the United Nations: a Canteen

for freedom and Democracy!There, in the heart of the Broadway theatrical district, in the deserted haunt of a former night club hard by Times Square, has been established a canteen for the entertainment, recreation, and social enjoyment of the men in uniform. The uniform is the only ticket necessary for admission, and no one not in uniform can enter, unless he comes to perform some service or render entertainment for the fighting boys. The light refreshments are free, provided by friends of the Canteen, but no liquor is served - and none is necessary to enliven the spirits of the guests, for within the portals of that crowded rendez-vous is the finest entertainment that money could buy - but provided free by the world's greatest actors, entertainers and musicians - yes, and not omitting "the most gorgeous girls in the world" from the hit shows of Broadway, who perform for an audience as fine as any to be found anywhere - the men who today make up the armies of freedom, the shock troops of the battle against Hitlerism!

To this Stage Door Canteen night after night they flock, sailors on shore leave and soldiers on furlough, officers and privates, men of every race and nation fighting against the Axis: no racial distinctions or national prejudices can inject their vicious poison into this democratic club, for there is no 'Jim Crow' here! And so popular has this meeting-place become among the men in uniform that it has even been rumored that from the signal towers of ships on dangerous convey in submarine-infested oceans the message flashes to passing ships: 'When you hit port, the place to go is the Stage Door Canteen!' In fact, the Stage Door Canteen is one of the greatest Broadway 'hits' of this or any season.

This Canteen was the gift of Broadway union workers to the armies of Victory, and in particular of the unions engaged in the entertainment industry - not only the professional unions, but every trade union involved in the theatre. Here, in a building furnished rent free by the producer Lee Shubert, the workers of every union contributed their share, in their own services: union artists painted the red, white and blue down the entrance walls and the lively murals and cartoons; union cleaners and rubbish collectors made the spacious room spic and span; tables were built by union carpenters and electrical equipment installed and operated by union electricians; union stage hands moved the stuff after union transfer men had trucked it to the door; union stage actors, radio actors, screen stars, variety actors, union musicians to provide the entertainment; union wardrobe attendants in the dressing-rooms, union ticket-sellers to glad hand the newcomers, union hostesses to engage in friendly conversation and serve as dancing-partners - they all are there and work without pay, give everything without pay a heartening sample of what can be done by trade unions uniting for Victory!

The importance and significance of such a contribution from organized labor to the men in uniform can scarcely be overestimated. This war -- a people's

war for freedom in a sense that no other war in history perhaps has been -- demands the highest morale and the firmest unity of all the people for Victory, and most especially, the cementing of unity between the armed forces and the people.

Through the canteen this unity and comradeship is made real, and the soldier comes to feel and know by actual experience that he is being backed up to the limit by the people back home -- with the result that his fighting spirit and morale is immeasurably strengthened and sustained. And furthermore, by its democratic, comradely fraternization, without restriction as to race, class, or creed, the Canteen provides a practical demonstration of the very ideals of democracy, freedom, and human brotherhood for which we fight.

Finally, since labor, in the words of General MacArthur, is 'the indestructible backbone that will determine the present struggle' and since labor has the most vital stake in the winning of the war, it is essential that organized labor as such make its special contribution to the morale of the armed forces, and by its support of the soldiers of the battlefront, help them to recognize and esteem the vital role of the 'soldiers of the home front' in the battle of production -- so that the unity of the people and the army shall be cemented solid as a rock against every attempt by reactionary, anti-labor and fascist-minded elements to split and disunite the people in the interests of a victory for fascism.

To this end we must ensure that the program of entertainment for the men in the armed forces is carried out under the direction of proven anti-fascist, pro-democratic elements sympathetic to labor. And in this the unions in the entertainment field, because of their key position in providing the talent and material for canteen programs, can play an important and useful role.

If such a successful, thriving venture as the 'Stage Door Canteen' can be established in New York, by the collaboration of the unions in the theatrical industry -- why not in Los Angeles? It is obvious that we have right here in Hollywood all the elements that combine to make such a venture both possible and necessary: we have the talent, we have the trade union organization, we have the strategic location, above all, we have the need..... what then are we waiting for? Are we content to let Broadway -- already in action for 10, these many months! -- so far outstrip Hollywood?

Well, for one thing -- we are waiting for organized action ... A number of separate groups and individuals interested in the problem of a canteen and inspired by the example of New York, have made tentative and as yet, somewhat abortive attempts to investigate possibilities and instigate action: such groups as the Screen Writers' Guild, the Hollywood Writers' Mobilization, and the Hollywood Victory Committee - and also certain individuals, prominent actors and actresses, on their own initiative - are we understand, working on

the problem at the moment. What seems to be lacking so far in all the attempts, however — and what is most certainly the only key to successful permanent accomplishment — is precisely, organized, co-operative action by all the appropriate unions involved. Without such cooperation, any attempt to establish a permanent canteen seems foredoomed to failure.

The first and most essential preliminary step to be tackled therefore, it would seem, is to find a way to contact all the appropriate unions, such as the various locals of the IATSE, the Screen Actors' Guild, Screen Writers' Guild, Screen Directors' Guild, Office Workers' Guild, both the Negro Local and Local 47 of the Musicians, AGMA, AFRA, and AGVA — and also such groups as Hollywood Writers' Mobilization, the Hollywood Victory Committee, and the Trade Union 'Unity for Victory' Committee, to call a conference of representatives of all these groups, and at that conference to proceed to the organization of a working canteen committee representing and having the support and cooperation of all the unions and other organizations interested.

Such a committee should then proceed to tackle all the various problems involved in the establishment of a canteen — choosing the most suitable location available, securing financial support, the organization of services and physical contributions of volunteer workers from the various unions, the provision of talent, programs, and material for entertainment, and finally, the organization of continuing committees and personnel for the administration of the canteen after it is established.

To help speed the accomplishment of these goals, the Civilian Defense Committee of our Local has set up a sub-committee to work for the establishment of a 'Canteen for Democracy' in Los Angeles. Already the sub-committee has asked for and obtained from the Executive Board of the Union full authorization to proceed to contact other unions in the entertainment industry in Hollywood and Los Angeles, as well as the Trade Union 'Unity for Victory' Committee, with a view to obtaining their cooperation in calling a conference of all unions interested in the establishment of such a canteen, at the earliest possible moment.

Here surely is one way — a very practical way — that we as Musicians and members of Local 47 can help to build and cement that 'Unity for Victory' we all desire, and to ensure a warm Hollywood welcome to our soldiers for freedom — the brave men in the armies of the United Nations! ... LET'S GET GOING!

Report delivered to
Hollywood Community meeting,
Civilian Defense Committee of
Local 47, American Federation of Musicians
June 29th, 1942.

Carroll Hollister, Chairman
Sub-Committee for the Canteen
Civilian Defense Committee
Local 47, A.F. of M.

P E N D I N G

UNDEVELOPED LEADS:

LOS ANGELES FIELD DIVISION

AT LOS ANGELES, will cause some surveillance to be made of the canteen which HOLLISTER proposes to open and a report will be submitted containing the facts relative to the nature of this institution and its attitude toward the armed forces.

FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

Form No. 1

THIS CASE ORIGINATED AT

LOS ANGELES

FILE NO.

100-13372

REPORT MADE AT LOS ANGELES	DATE WHEN MADE 2/4/43	PERIOD FOR WHICH MADE 1/9,15/43	REPORT MADE BY FRANK J. KRENEY 1ch
TITLE CARROLL SUB HOLLISTER; RUTH HOLLISTER, with alias; Mrs. Carroll Hollister.			CHARACTER OF CASE INTERNAL SECURITY - R CUSTODIAL DETENTION.

SYNOPSIS OF FACTS

Hollywood Canteen opened 10/3/42 at Los Angeles for entertainment of soldiers, sailors and Marines of the U.S. and United Nations. Actress BETTE DAVIS is President and Subject CARROLL HOLLISTER one of the Vice Presidents. Canteen able to accommodate 3,000 men each night. Canteen officers, Board of Directors and Executive Committee identified. Identity of persons and organizations active in organizing and maintaining canteen listed.

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED
HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED
DATE 12/4/00 BY 325 Jc/lwr

- C -

REFERENCE:

Report of Special Agent JAMES G. FIMINLAY dated at Los Angeles, August 4, 1942.

DETAILS:

The "People's World" of August 20, 1942, carries an article by JOHN GUIN, devoted to the efforts being made to establish a stage door canteen in Hollywood. It was stated that the last detail standing in the way of opening the canteen was disposed of on August 6, 1942, when the Hollywood Victory Committee approved operating plans drafted in conference with trade union representatives. BETTE DAVIS, motion picture actress, was spokesman on behalf of the Hollywood Victory Committee and had conferred with CARROLL HOLLISTER, Secretary Pro Tem of the Trade Union Continuations Committee. The article quotes HOLLISTER, a member of local 47 of the American Federation of Musicians, who described to the writer the nature of the activities of the canteen to be opened, and in a general way the programs which it would sponsor for the entertainment of service men.

It was announced that the Hollywood Stage Door Canteen would be affiliated with Theater Wing, Inc. of New York, the organization that initiated the

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ORIGINAL FILED IN 100-100075-8-7

campaign for the establishment of the Stage Door Canteen. The following are the organizations officially represented on the Canteen Operating Committee:

Locals 47 and 767 of the American Federation of Musicians;
American Guild of Variety Artists;
Federation of Amusement and Allied Crafts;
Screen Cartoonists Guild;
Screen Office Employees Guild;
Screen Set Designers;
Screen Writers Guild;
Hollywood Victory Committee;
Screen Directors Guild.

In addition, these talent groups were stated to be cooperating in the work of organizing the Canteen:

The Actors Lab;
American Music Theater;
Mobile Theater;
Screen Publicists Guild;
Lab Technicians;
IATSE No. 683;
Moving Picture Painters.

The Trade Union Unity for Victory Committee representing the CIO, AFL and Railway Brotherhood unions, was expected to endorse the Canteen program. It was intended that the operating committee would be drawn from members of the theater trade unions, guilds and allied crafts, and will have complete charge of directing the Canteen program. All necessary workers in the organizing and in the maintaining of the Canteen would be enlisted on a voluntary basis.

The campaign for a canteen arose from the action of the Executive Committee of the American Federation of Musicians, Local No. 767, which authorized a sub-committee of musicians to contact other unions in the entertainment field. The following members of the union were active in the preliminary work:

CARROLL HOLLISTER
SAM ALBERT
MARCEL, ALAN and SARAH
COMPTON
JOSEPH AGNEW

DON CHRISTENSE
BOB KAPLAN
FLORENCE CADRE
BARB MORTHEAD
ELMER PAUL

This group had the cooperation of J. E. (BETTY) WALLACE, identified in the article as President of the Union and the holder of the key position in the canteen program.

The negotiations led to a meeting with BETTE DAVIS, JULES STEIN, JOHN CAMPFIELD, MELVYN LE ROY, EDWARD J. MANNIC, CHARLES WELLS and ARTHUR LARINE,

representing the Hollywood Victory Committee.

The issue of the "People's World" for August 27, 1942, in an article by JOHN GONE, describes the plans of the guilds and trade unions of Hollywood, sponsoring the canteen with respect to the efforts being made to raise funds for the canteen. It was stated that a benefit would be held August 29, 1942, at the Four Star Theater on Wilshire Boulevard, including a preview of a motion picture, to be followed by a show at Ciro's restaurant in Hollywood. The hostesses at the restaurant would be BETTE DAVIS, DOROTHY LAMOUR, CAROL LANE, KAY FRANCIS, PAT DUFF, MARIA MONTEZ, JANE WILSON, JANE PAULSEN and JANE BLAIR.

The "Los Angeles Daily News" in its issue of September 10, 1942, announced that the Hollywood Canteen would be opened on October 3, 1942. This announcement was followed by a listing of the officers, executive committee and Board of Directors of the Canteen, which are composed of the following persons:

BETTE DAVIS, President
CARROLL HOLLISTER, Vice President
JOHN CAMPBELL, " "
J. A. WALLACE, " "
LEAHY, Treasurer
JEAN LEWIS, Secretary.

Executive Committee:

CATHERINE HALEY	GEORGE HANNEY
BILLIE BURKE	CAROL HOBBS
FLORENCE C. GARDNER	WILLIAM D. SIMON
LEAHY COLE	DORIS STEIN
MERVIN LE ROY	JANE STEIN
MACK MILLAR	JOHN TROTT

Board of Directors:

HEIDI STAFFORD	JAMES BRIDGEMAN
A. C. HENDERSON	JOHN BOYLAN
FLORENCE DALE	PEPE ROSE
GEORGE WILFIELD	HEIDI MONTINI
PAUL GAFFER	CAROL SHIPP
HELLIE MARIE MARLEY	GERALD DAVISON
NASH S. MORRIS	JOHN RAYMOND
LESLIE THOMAS	HANS PETERS
CARL HEAD	LINDSEY THOMPSON
A. J. MORAN	L. C. LAVIS
	AL BOWEN.

On January 9, 1943, the following report was obtained by the writer from [redacted] This report describes a meeting of the Board of Directors of the Hollywood Canteen and identifies persons present at the meeting and reports the results of the elections.

"Los Angeles, Calif. Jan. 8-1943.

"HOLLYWOOD CANTENEN.

Statement of R.C.

"Meeting of the Board of Directors of the Hollywood Canteen held January 7th, 8:30 PM, Room M. on Mezzanine Floor, Hollywood Roosevelt Hotel, Hollywood, Calif.

"Notice of this meeting sent but stated that business to be taken up would be:

1. Election of Officers for ensuing year.
2. Election of new corporation members.
3. Designation of Executive Committee.
4. Financial statement through past period of operation.
5. Any further or additional business which may be brought before the Board.

"The officers named on this notice of meeting were:

BETTE DAVIS, President
 CARROLL HOLLISTER, Vice-President.
 JOHN GARFIELD, Vice-President.
 J. H. WALLACE, Vice-President.
 JEAN LEWIN, Secretary and Asst Treasurer.
 ALFRED C. YEARMAN, Treasurer.

Committee Chairmen:

DORIS STEIN, Hostess.)
 FLORENCE O. CADREZ)
 MERVYN LORRY, Host)
 HARRY CROCKER, Host)
 MACK WILLAR, Publicity
 ANN WARNER, wife of J. L. WARNER, Warner Bros., Contributions.
 JULES G. STEIN, Business Management.
 GEORGE RAMSEY, Stage Management.

ALFRED C. THARRA, Building and Alterations.
CHEF MILANI, Food donations.
WILLIAM BINGH, Kitchen equipment.
CASHY ROBERTS, Designers.
CATHERINE BALEWIN, Treasurers.
PEPE RUIZ, Checkers.

Entertainment:

BOB HOPE, Chairman
JOHN GARFIELD
AL MALMCKE
JOHN TEGGREN
RAY HYDER
BARON MOORHEAD
GEORGE WIFFIELD
FLORINE DALE

Snack Bar:

Mrs. JOHN FORD
BILLIE BURNIE

BETTE DAVIS was Chairman.

About 35 persons present.

Those recognized by Informant were:

BETTE DAVIS, screen actress
J. K. (SPIKE) WALLACE, Business Representative of
Local 47, Musicians Union.
JOHN TRACARREN, Local 47, Musicians.
JULES C. STEIN.
MRS. JOHN FORD (wife of director JOHN FORD)
PEPE RUIZ, member Screen Cartoonists Union.
PAUL JAFFE, member Local 683, Laboratory Union IATSE.
JUAN LEWIN, Screen Office Employees Guild.
JOHN GARFIELD, screen actor.
MERVYN LEROY, Director.
GEORGE RAMSAY
AL IBARRA
MICKY MORRIS, Local 80, Grips, IATSE.
RALD CLARE
Chef MILANI
MACK MILLER.

BOOT, member Studio Painters, Local 644.
Unidentified person who appeared and turned out to
be the Treasurer. A complete stranger to informant.

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"Statement of Information:

BETTE DAVIS opened the meeting. Asked if those present wanted to hear the minutes of previous meeting read, particularly the minutes of the last meeting of the EXECUTIVE BOARD (this executive board is a distinct group from the Board of Directors and is in real control of the project). She stated that the minutes would take a long time to read and her remarks discouraged the reading of them. JOHN TEAGARDEN of the Musicians Union immediately took the floor and made a motion that all reading of any minutes be dispensed with, and it was immediately seconded and carried.

"A motion was made and carried that a Committee, of which BETTE should be one, be appointed to appoint all committees to carry on the business of the Canteen. In addition to herself, BETTE DAVIS appointed J. E. (SPICE) WALLACE and JULES C. STEIN.

"At this meeting CARROLL HOLLISTER, JOHN GARFIELD and J. E. WALLACE were reelected Vice-Presidents. Mrs. JOHN FORD and MELVIN LEBBY were named Vice-Presidents.

"JEAN LEWIN was retained as Secretary and Assistant Treasurer. All others of the Board of Directors were retained.

"Canteen is incorporated under the laws of the State of California. There are eleven persons named in the articles of incorporation, informant being one of them, as a matter of form.

"The Executive Board was not represented at last night's meeting, as a body. It was carefully kept from coming before the meeting, except when a motion was made to continue the board (without naming them) for another year. It was carried.

"Informant states that the Canteen is supported by donations. JULES C. STEIN stated at meeting that \$50,000 had been donated by SOL LASKER, producer of the motion picture, "Stage Door Canteen."

"Another method of raising money is from what is called the Angel's tables. Celebrities are invited to visit the Canteen and pay \$100. per plate and sit at certain tables where they are put on exhibition.

"All workers who donate their services, such as carpenters, painters, and help of all kinds, are required to register and pay \$1.00 as a fee.

"All help is fingerprinted and must carry an identification.

"He (Informant) also stated that CARROLL HOLLISTER is now in New York."

- C L O S E D -

FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

Form No. 1

THIS CASE ORIGINATED AT **LOS ANGELES**

FILE NO. **100-13342**

REPORT MADE AT LOS ANGELES	DATE WHEN MADE 4/14/43	PERIOD FOR WHICH MADE 3/24; 4/1/43	REPORT MADE BY JAMES G. FINDLAY KH
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TITLE CHANGED CARROLL SUE HOLLISTER; RUTH HOLLISTER, alias Mrs. Carroll Hollister; HOLLYWOOD CANTEN.	CHARACTER OF CASE INTERNAL SECURITY - R CUSTODIAL DETENTION
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399-973
**ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED
HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED
DATE 12/4/91 BY SP5JCA/MP**

SYNOPSIS OF FACTS:

The Board of Directors of the HOLLYWOOD CANTEN met on March 22, 1943. The matter of white girls dancing with Negro soldiers and Negro girls dancing with white soldiers came up for discussion and disposition. The discussion became quite heated and a motion was made that the officers of the Canteen instruct white and colored girls that they were not to dance with soldiers of different color. The motion brought a storm of protest but was lost by an overwhelming majority. Race riots were predicted.

- P. -

REFERENCE:

Report of Special Agent Frank J. Keeney, Los Angeles, 2/4/43.

DETAILS:

AT LOS ANGELES, CALIFORNIA.

The title of this case has been changed to add the name HOLLYWOOD CANTEN.

Source A reported that there seemed to be a considerable complaint and dissatisfaction brewing at the HOLLYWOOD CANTEN over the matter of the co-mingling of the white and colored soldiers and the female entertainers. Source A stated that a great deal of talk and protest had resulted over a remark which apparently had been promulgated by the Communist element of the management that "white girls must dance with colored soldiers without discrimination, and white soldiers must dance with colored girls without discrimination."

APPROVED AND FORWARDED: <i>[Signature]</i> 1-cc - 8-2 1-cc - ONT 5-11-43	SPECIAL AGENT IN CHARGE <i>[Signature]</i>	DO NOT WRITE IN THESE SPACES 100-259318-3 8 APR 19 1943	RECORDED & INDEXED
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RECORDED COPY FILED IN 100-105058-9

Source A made inquiries and an investigation and reported that a meeting of the Board of Directors of the HOLLYWOOD CANTEEN was held on Monday evening, March 22, 1943, at which about twenty-five were present, a large percentage of whom were unknown to informant although informant is a member. He stated that J. K. (SPIKE) WALLACE acted as chairman. WALLACE is Business Representative of Musicians Local 47, Los Angeles.

After routine business was disposed of, CARROLL HOLLISTER, Vice President of the Canteen, took the floor and complained about officiousness of the Military Police and Shore Police in questioning soldiers who visited the Canteen, particularly the Negroes. He defended the practice of mixed dancing--white girls with Negroes and Negro girls with white soldiers--which has been going on for some time in the Canteen. He drew a vivid picture of persecution of minorities under Hitler, particularly of the Jews, and compared it with the persecution of the Negro in America.

PAUL JAFFEE, a member of the Executive Board of Laboratory Technicians, Local 683, a Communist-controlled local union of the IATSE, supported HOLLISTER in an impassioned talk.

FLORINE SALES, West Coast Representative of the AMERICAN GUILD OF VARIETY ARTISTS (AGVA), protested mixed dancing and stated that many of the girl members of her union refused to visit the Canteen to entertain because attempts were made to coerce them into dancing with Negroes. She later told informant that at previous meetings of this Board of Directors the question of making mixed dancing compulsory was favorably discussed. Informant had not attended those meetings.

JULES STEIN, who raises the funds for the Canteen and who was instrumental in getting a donation of \$50,000 from SOL LESSER, protested mixed dancing. Mr. STEIN is a physician, formerly of Chicago. His connection with the motion picture industry is not known.

KAY KYSER stated he was not exactly in favor of mixed dancing but thought it might be ironed out in some manner.

RALPH CLARE, Secretary of Studio Drivers, Local 399, then made a motion that the officers of the Canteen instruct white and colored girls that they were not to dance with soldiers of different color. This motion brought a storm of protest. J. K. WALLACE, Chairman, violently opposed the motion and said that if it were passed he would resign from the Canteen, and that his union, Musicians Local 47, would withdraw as a body. This union is completely controlled by the Communist Party.

Also opposing the motion were: PAUL JAFFEE, CARROLL HOLLISTER, PEDRO LOPEZ, FLORENCE CADRIZ, JOHN TEAGARTEN (Te Groen?). The motion was lost by an overwhelming majority.

FLORENCE CADRIZ stated in a later argument that JOHN GARFIELD, screen actor, at previous meetings had favored mixed dancing.

Mr. JULES STEIN stated to Source A later that in his opinion the situation was becoming acute and that one of these days there would be a serious race riot at the Canteen.

Source A advised that there is no doubt that the HOLLYWOOD CANTEEN is under the control of Communist elements, that it was a Communist inspired project in the beginning. The question of Negro equality is one of the basic planks in the Communist Party's platform. They are constantly raising this question to win the Negroes over to their influence, and if they can maintain the practice now being put into effect in the HOLLYWOOD CANTEEN, they hope to use it as an example for other sections to follow.

- PENDING -

UNDEVELOPED LEAD

LOS ANGELES FIELD DIVISION

This is an active investigation in the Los Angeles Bureau Office, the activities are being observed, and a report covering them will be submitted.

FOIA(b) (7) - (D)

Source A



Haw

EHW:PMC
Tr. 5-11-43

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~
BY SPECIAL MESSENGER

RECORDED

100-259318-3

#344-973

Date:

APPROVED
DATE 5/11/98 Sps:cc

To: Assistant Chief of Staff
O-2
War Department
Washington, D. C.

Attention: Colonel L. R. Forney

From: J. Edgar Hoover - Director, Federal Bureau of Investigation

Subject: HOLLYWOOD CANTERIN
Hollywood, California

There are submitted herewith for your information and appropriate consideration with respect to the captioned matter the following investigative reports:

Report of Special Agent F. J. Keeney dated June 16, 1942, Los Angeles, California, and entitled "Carroll Hollister; Ruth Hollister, with alias: Mrs. Carroll Hollister; Internal Security - R."

Report of Special Agent F. J. Keeney dated July 23, 1942, Los Angeles, California, and entitled "Carroll Hollister; Ruth Hollister, with alias: Mrs. Carroll Hollister; Internal Security - R."

Report of Special Agent Frank J. Keeney dated February 4, 1943, Los Angeles, California, and entitled "Carroll Sue Hollister; Ruth Hollister, with alias: Mrs. Carroll Hollister; Internal Security - R; Custodial Detention."

Report of Special Agent James J. Bowman dated April 12, 1943, New Haven, Connecticut, and entitled "Ruth Manship Hollister, with aliases Ruth Manship, Ruth Moltow; Internal Security - C; Custodial Detention."

Report of Special Agent James G. Windlay dated April 14, 1943, Los Angeles, California, and entitled "Carroll Sue Hollister; Ruth Hollister, alias Mrs. Carroll Hollister; Hollywood Canten; Internal Security - R; Custodial Detention."

It is recalled that under date of August 17, 1942, you were directed a copy of the report of Special Agent James G. Windlay dated August 4, 1942, Los Angeles, California, and entitled "Carroll Hollister; Ruth Hollister, alias Mrs. Carroll Hollister; Internal Security."

Enclosure
MAILED 12
MAY 18 1943
Director of Naval Intelligence
Navy Department
Washington, D. C.

Miss Gandy

8 MAY 17 1943

Y- 1/4/44-hs

EHW:PMC

May 12, 1943

SAC, Los Angeles

Re: ⁰HOLLYWOOD CANTEEN
INTERNAL SECURITY - C

Dear Sir:

Reference is made to the report of Special Agent James G. Findlay dated April 14, 1943, Los Angeles, California, entitled "Carroll Sue Hollister; Ruth Hollister, alias Mrs. Carroll Hollister; Hollywood Canteen; Internal Security - R; Custodial Detention." It is desired that in the future you carry information reported to you which concerns the Hollywood Canteen under the above captioning. Information concerning the individuals who were carried as subjects in the reference report should be incorporated in investigative reports entitled according to their names.

It is also desired that in connection with the above-captioned matter, you submit an investigative report setting forth that information contained in your files reflecting Communist Party affiliations or sympathies on the part of the individuals connected with the Hollywood canteen. In addition, it is requested that the instant case be kept in a pending status and that you report therein all information brought to your attention by confidential informants and reliable contacts concerning this organization. Any inquiries made by you must of necessity be made in a highly discreet manner and preferably investigation and inquiries should be confined to the use of confidential informants and reliable contacts.

Very truly yours,

John Edgar Hoover
Director

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED
HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED
DATE 2-1-01 BY 3963 ELM/JA4

RECORDED
INDEXED

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FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

Form No. 1

THIS CASE ORIGINATED AT

LOS ANGELES

FILE NO. 100-18780

REPORT MADE AT LOS ANGELES	DATE WHEN MADE 8/12/43	PERIOD FOR WHICH MADE 7/24, 25, 27/43	REPORT MADE BY JAMES G. FINDLAY
TITLE "CHANGED"			CHARACTER OF CASE INTERNAL SECURITY - C
HOLLYWOOD CANTEN			

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED

HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED

DATE 1-27-98 BY SP-5 JCL/SP

SYNOPSIS OF FACTS:

The Hollywood Canteen was first proposed by CARROLL HOLLISTER and sponsored by seventeen unions and guilds in the motion picture industry in Hollywood. It was opened on October 3, 1942. About March, 1943, a controversy arose over the question of white and colored soldiers dancing indiscriminately with white and colored hostesses. A resolution had been offered at a prior meeting which had been tabled. A motion was made to reconsider the question and this was voted down at the March, 1943 meeting, but still some parties insisted that an investigation be made to ascertain the general feeling and attitude and report its findings. Subversive and Communist contacts of officers of the Canteen have been obtained and are set out in this report.

- P -

REFERENCE:

Letter from Bureau, dated May 12, 1943.

Report of Special Agent JAMES G. FINDLAY, dated April 14, 1943, at Los Angeles, California.

DETAILS:

AT LOS ANGELES, CALIFORNIA

Under instructions from the Bureau the title of this case has been changed by dropping therefrom the following: CARROLL SUE HOLLISTER; RUTH HOLLISTER, with alias: Mrs. Carroll Hollister, as a separate file

APPROVED AND FORWARDED:

SPECIAL AGENT IN CHARGE

DO NOT WRITE IN THESE SPACES

- COPIES OF THIS REPORT
- (5) - Bureau
 - 2 - New York City
 - 1 - DIO, San Diego
 - 1 - G-2, Los Angeles
 - 1 - San Francisco (Inf.)
 - 2 - Los Angeles

RECORDED

INDEXED

SEE REVERSE SIDE FOR ADD. DISSEMINATION.

NOV 1 1943

is being opened concerning these individuals.

The character of the case has been changed from "INTERNAL SECURITY - R; CUSTODIAL DETENTION" to "INTERNAL SECURITY - C".

The Hollywood Canteen was first proposed by CARROLL HOLLISTER, Chairman of the Sub-Committee for the Canteen, which was reflected by a letter which HOLLISTER addressed to Studio Transportation, Drivers Union #399, 6472 Santa Monica Blvd., Los Angeles, dated July 10, 1942. With this letter there was enclosed a three-page Memorandum headed "CANTEENS FOR DEMOCRACY" and signed CARROLL HOLLISTER, Chairman Sub-Committee for the Canteen, Civilian Defense Committee, Local #47, A.F. of M., dated June 29, 1942.

The two above-named documents were copied in full in the report of Special Agent JAMES G. FINDLAY, Los Angeles, California, dated August 4, 1942.

The Hollywood Reporter for August 20, 1942, stated that seventeen guilds and unions in the motion picture industry were sponsoring the Hollywood Canteen and arranging a party, and named the following organizations:

- ✓ 1- Actors Equity.
- ✓ 2- American Federation of Musicians, Local #47.
- ✓ 3- American Federation of Musicians, Local #767.
- ✓ 4- American Federation of Radio Artists.
- 5- American Federation of Amusements and Allied Crafts.
- 6- Hair Stylists Guild.
- 7- Independent Publicists.
- 8- Laboratory Technicians #638, I.A.T.S.E.
- 9- Laboratory Technicians #683, I.A.T.S.E.
- 10- Motion Picture Costumers, #705.
- 11- Motion Picture Painters, Local #644.
- ✓ 12- Radio Writers Guild.

- 13- Screen Actors Guild.
- 14- Screen Directors Guild.
- 15- Screen Office Employees Guild.
- 16- Screen Publicists Guild.
- 17- Screen Readers Guild.

Source "A" has furnished a list of the officers and members of the Executive Committee and the members of the Board of Directors of the Hollywood Canteen which were listed in the report of Special Agent FRANK J. KEENEY, dated February 4, 1943, at Los Angeles, and the report of Special Agent JAMES G. FINDLAY, Los Angeles, dated April 14, 1943, and will not be repeated here, but information relative to the Communist connections and subversive activities of the parties named in said reports will be set forth in this report.

Source "B" has prepared a report covering a meeting of the Board of Directors of the Hollywood Canteen which took place on July 8, 1943. In substance, this report is as follows:

Source reported that the Board of Directors of the Hollywood Canteen held a meeting at the offices of the American Guild of Variety Artists, a trade union located at 1515 Crossroads Of The World, Hollywood, California, at 8:30 P.M. on July 8, 1943. Source stated that there were approximately thirty persons present some of whom had not appeared at previous meetings of the Board and who were unknown to Informant.

Source named the following parties who were present, who are known to him:

JOHN ~~X~~GARFIELD (correct name JACOB ~~X~~GARFINKLE), screen actor who acted as Chairman of the meeting in absence of BETTE ~~X~~DAVIS.

DALTON ~~X~~TRUMBO (correct name JAMES DALTON ~~X~~TRUMBO), screen writer.

HARRY ~~X~~CROCKER, newspaper man.

PAUL ~~X~~JAFFEE, studio technician, member of Local #683, I.A.T.S.E.

KAY ~~X~~KYSER, band leader of KYSER'S Band.

JULES C. ~~X~~STEIN, motion picture executive. /

Mrs. JULES C. ~~X~~STEIN, wife of JULES C. STEIN.

Mrs. MARY ~~FORD~~, wife of JOHN ~~FORD~~ the motion picture screen director.
Baron ~~MOREHEAD~~, Negro, member of the Negro Musicians Union.
DUDLEY R. ~~FURSE~~, Attorney for the Canteen.
GEORGE ~~RAMSAY~~, screen publicist.
MICKEY ~~MORRIS~~, member of studio grips, Local #80, I.A.T.S.E.
CARROLL HOLLISTER, musician, Vice President of Hollywood Canteen Organization.
MERVYN ~~LeROY~~, motion picture producer.
Chef ~~MILANI~~, cook and chef at the Canteen.
PEDRO ~~LOPEZ~~, Mexican, occupation unknown.
RALPH ~~CLARE~~, Secretary, Studio Drivers Union, Local #399.
LINDSAY ~~THOMPSON~~, member Studio Laborers, Local #727, I.A.T.S.E.

Source stated that in addition to the above-named parties a young woman was present whose name he could not get who spoke for the Screen Office Employees Guild, and also a man who represented the Screen Readers Guild whose name he likewise could not obtain.

Source stated that at the beginning of the meeting a motion was made and carried that the minutes of the previous meeting be read. Following this routine business it was announced that this meeting had been called for the purpose of taking up the question of racial discrimination and the propriety of officially endorsing mixed dancing between Negro soldiers and white women hostesses at the Canteen. Source stated that a discussion about this matter took place which consumed almost the entire time from 8:30 to 11:30 P.M. He further stated that the discussion was brought about by the reading of two communications, one from the Screen Readers Guild and one from the Screen Office Employees Guild by the Secretary of the Canteen. Source stated that both letters were identical in content and demanded a statement from the Board of Directors of the Canteen of its policy on the question of racial discrimination. Source stated that after the letters were read a motion was made by a man who appeared to be a Mexican, name unknown, suggesting that the letters be answered suitably and a copy of the Articles of Incorporation and the By-Laws of the Canteen be enclosed with the answers. Source stated that a debate then ensued as to what would be the action of the Board of Directors in preparing a suitable reply to these letters.

Source stated that JULES C. STEIN immediately took the floor and raised objections to the content of the letters. He stated that he was aware that there were subversive elements at work in the Canteen and that he was sure that both letters were inspired by those elements within the organizations which these parties represented. Source stated that at this juncture the representative from the Screen Readers Guild jumped to his feet and denied vehemently that there was subversive activity in the Canteen and stated that his organization was free of such activity or that the letter from his organization was so inspired.

Source stated that Mr. STEIN apologized in a way, for accusing the Screen Readers Guild of being subversive as an organization but reiterated that he knew there were subversive elements in that organization whose motives were other than good for the Canteen. Mr. STEIN further stated that he was interested in the good of the Canteen and he felt that this constant agitation by these subversive elements would bring on, sooner or later, a serious race riot, in which case the military authorities might be forced to close the Canteen. Source stated that at this point Mrs. MARY FORD, the wife of the screen director JOHN FORD, who was sitting next to the Informant, leaned over and said she wished this "subversive Communistic stuff" could be kept out of the Canteen; that the letters were evidence of such activity. Source further stated that he then said to Mrs. FORD that in his opinion the letters might just as well have been written on the stationery of the Communist Party and signed by its Secretary, to which statement Mrs. FORD indicated her approval.

Source stated that at this point the question of whether or not the Board of Directors should officially endorse mixed dancing was brought up for discussion. Source stated that the following persons took the floor and spoke in favor of the resolution for mixed dancing: PAUL JAFFEE, CARROLL HOLLISTER, DALTON TRUMBO, HARRY CROCKER, Baron MOREHEAD, and some others whose names he does not remember.

Source stated that the following parties took the floor and opposed the motion: JULES C. STEIN, MARY FORD, LINDSAY THOMPSON, MICKEY MORRIS, KAY KYSER, and RALPH CLARE.

Source stated that KAY KYSER made the statement that although he came from the South he was not opposed to all forms of racial discrimination, but he stated that he was opposed to mixed dancing in the Canteen because if a race riot should start he and his band of musicians were so situated on the platform that they never could get out. Several other persons present, whose names are unknown to source, also spoke in one form or another against the resolution providing for mixed dancing.

Source stated that RALPH CLARE then took the floor and stated he knew that subversive elements were at work in the Canteen, but their motives were well

concealed. He stated that many of them were known to be subversive and that they were not Nazi or Fascist, but were of another group equally subversive.

MERVYN LeROY then stated that he would not belong to any organization that practiced racial discrimination. He stated that he had made a motion picture in the South and was well acquainted with the Negro race. He said that some of his pictures could not be shown in the South although he had made many efforts to have them shown.

Source stated that JULES C. STEIN then stated that the New York Canteen did not permit mixed dancing and he could not see why the Hollywood Canteen could not have the same rule and the same regulations.

Source stated that CARROLL HOLLISTER then took the floor and contradicted STEIN and said that it was a common practice, and encouraged in New York, meaning the New York Canteen.

Source stated that Baron MOREHEAD, a Negro musician, then took the floor and stated that he had been informed that at a previous meeting an attempt had been made to pass a motion which would prohibit mixed dancing on the Canteen premises, and that it was only the action of SPIKE WALLACE, Head of the Musicians Union, Local #47, in making the threat to take his union out of the Canteen, that prevented the passage of the motion at the former meeting. Source stated that several persons present from the Communist group jumped to the floor and vehemently denied that such an incident had taken place or that such a vote had been taken or would have been taken. Source stated that it was reasserted that the incident had occurred and named the party who made the motion which was under discussion at the time that WALLACE made the threat as above indicated.

Source stated that at this point an amendment to the original motion was made, and in answering the communications from the two organizations mentioned it restated that it was the policy of the Board of Directors to oppose racial discrimination; that although it (the Board) did not favor mixed dancing, it would be a matter of individual action of those who favored it; that it would not be officially prohibited. Immediately following, a vote was taken on the amendment and the original motion; both of which were carried.

Source stated that a suggestion was then made that a committee be appointed by the Chairman which should try to devise a method of procedure for the Canteen which would not be based on racial discrimination but would at the same time tend to protect the Canteen from the possibility of race riot. Source stated that this suggestion was adopted and a Committee was appointed which consisted of the following parties:

JULES C. STEIN (opposed to mixed dancing).
PAUL JAFFEE (member of the Communist Party).
DALTON TRUMBO (member of the Communist Party). (JAMES DALTON TRUMBO).

Mrs. MARY FORD, wife of JOHN FORD. (Follower of Communist Party Line).
Baron MOREHEAD (unknown).
KAY KYSER (fellow traveler; opposed to mixed dancing).
RALPH CLARE (strongly opposed to Communism; strongly opposed to mixed dancing.)

Source stated that a motion was then made and carried that all verbatim statements made in the heat of discussions be stricken from the minutes and that only the results of the meeting be placed on record. Source further stated that although this motion carried, the Secretary JEAN LEWIN appeared to take down every statement made during the discussion on the race question while during the discussion on other matters she was not particularly attentive.

Source further advised that another conversation was had with Mrs. MARY FORD during which Mrs. FORD stated that she was worried about what may happen at the Canteen. She stated that one evening her young daughter was maneuvered into dancing with a Negro soldier, much to her embarrassment and that of her escort, a young white soldier. Source stated that Mrs. FORD made the statement at that time that she hesitated to let her daughter go to the Canteen on account of the aforesaid conditions.

Source stated that JULES C. STEIN was asked if he knew that CARROLL HOLLISTER, who is practically in control of the Canteen, had a Communist record "as long as your arm". Source stated that STEIN replied: "Yes, very definitely."

Source stated that it is his opinion from observation and from his acquaintance with a great many people connected with the Canteen that the actual operation of the Canteen is by Communists and Communist sympathizers, and that this faction has complete control of the affairs of the Canteen, and that the Canteen is to a very large extent a propaganda center.

Source "C" informed the Los Angeles Bureau Office that a meeting of the Board of Directors of the Hollywood Canteen was held on the night of July 8, 1943.

Source stated that about two months ago at one of the Board meetings, DALTON TRUMBO, the writer, and CARROLL HOLLISTER, the radio musician, who are members of the Board of Directors of the Canteen, had endeavored to prevail upon the other members of the Board to permit colored soldiers to dance with white hostesses at the Hollywood Canteen. Source stated that HOLLISTER on the night of July 8, 1943, requested that the minutes of the meeting of two months ago be read and that a motion be made to permit this matter to be rediscussed as it had been definitely shelved at the meeting two months prior to July 8th.

Source stated that JULES C. STEIN, a prominent member of the Board, at the first meeting had stated that such a proposal was definitely a Communist plot, or Communist plan to stir up trouble in the Canteen. Source further stated

that Mr. STEIN had stated that the FBI had somebody at the former Board meeting and that the FBI was definitely interested in Communist activities in the motion picture industry. Further that the FBI was getting all the information about the goings-on at the Board meetings on the part of the Communist members.

Source stated that there were twenty-eight members on the Board. Source further stated that presently the Board received a letter from the Screen Readers Guild in which it was stated that members of the Guild hoped there would be no racial discrimination at the Hollywood Canteen. Source stated that the letter also referred to the race riot which had taken place throughout the country and trusted that nothing like that would occur here. Source pointed to this as another example of the Communist line and its activities in Hollywood. Source stated that at the present time there are colored girls provided for colored servicemen and not long ago a white sailor danced with one of the Negress hostesses. Source stated that there has been a move made to increase the number of members on the Board of Directors but Source stated that HOLLISTER is leading the so-called Communist group on the Board in an effort to keep the membership down. Source has stated that he will endeavor to determine definitely who are Communists on the Board.

Source "D" has furnished information relative to the subversive activities and Communist connections of the persons who have devoted a great deal of time and effort to the management and activities of the Canteen. Following is the information which Source "D" was able to furnish relative to the Directors, the Executive Board Members, and others in this connection:

CARROLL HOLLISTER:

Source "D" has stated that HOLLISTER is the Vice President of the Canteen and the original proposer and sponsor of the Canteen. He has stated that at a meeting of the Executive Board on March 22, 1943, HOLLISTER complained of the officiousness of the military police and shore police in questioning soldiers who visited the Canteen; particularly the Negroes. He stated that HOLLISTER has defended the practice of mixed dancing; that is, white girls with Negro soldiers and Negro girls with white soldiers which had been the custom at the Canteen. Source stated that HOLLISTER drew a vivid picture of the persecution of minorities under HITLER, particularly of the Jews and compared it with the persecution of the Negroes in America.

Source has stated that HOLLISTER is a member of the Musicians Local #47 I.A.T.S.E.; that he came from New York City about eighteen months ago and that he cooperates with SPIKE WALLACE and SAM ALBERTS in the control of the Canteen. Source further stated that there is some information which indicates that HOLLISTER has been active in Communist matters in New York City before coming to Los Angeles but the details of his activities and connections with the Communist Party are not known at the present time.

BETTE DAVIS:

The information about BETTE DAVIS is that she is very sympathetic to Communist activities and should be classified as a fellow traveler. The original meeting for the organization of the Hollywood Canteen was held at her home and she was elected President of the Canteen Organization. She is under contract with WARNER Brothers and has been for a number of years and is considered a star actress in WARNER Brothers Pictures.

J. K. (Spike) WALLACE:

WALLACE is the representative of Musicians Local #47 of the I.A.T.S.E. in Los Angeles and is a very active member of the Communist Party. Source "D" has stated that WALLACE, SAM ALBERTS, M. ~~X~~ALTMAN and HENRY ~~X~~ALBERTI control the activities of the Musicians Local #47 along with some other fellow travelers. Source has further stated that WALLACE threatened to resign from the Board of Directors of the Canteen if the resolution prohibiting mixed dancing passed. He further stated that the Musicians Local #47 would also withdraw from the Canteen and refuse to furnish further entertainment.

JOHN GARFIELD (Jake ~~X~~Garfinkle)

Source "D" has stated that GARFIELD is a screen actor and has been for a number of years. GARFIELD works for WARNER Brothers and has acted in many screen plays. Source has stated that GARFIELD came from the "Old Mercury Theatre" in New York about 1934; that during the time he was in New York City he was connected with certain "Workers Group" Theatres in New York City which were affiliated with the ~~X~~International Union of Revolutionary Theatres, an organization set up in Moscow, Russia, for the purpose of using the theatre as an instrument of revolutionary propaganda. Source has stated that GARFIELD was also associated with the "New Theatre League" which consolidated all of the so-called "Workers Group" theatres into one organization. Source further stated that since that time GARFIELD has consistently followed the Communist Party Line in Hollywood where he came in about 1936; that he has supported and has been a very active member of many Communist Front groups in Hollywood and is still very active in the party and the front groups.

ALFRED C. ~~X~~YBARRA:

Source "D" has stated that YBARRA was for a time Treasurer of the Hollywood Canteen but that he has been succeeded as Treasurer recently; the name of the present treasurer not being known. Source stated that he is a member of the Screen Cartoonist Guild and has been very active in the affairs of that organization. Source stated that YBARRA is not known to be a member of

the Communist Party but that he follows the Communist Party Line unhesitatingly.

JEAN LEWIN:

Source "D" has stated that JEAN LEWIN is the present Secretary of the Hollywood Canteen; that she is a member of the Screen Office Employees Guild; and is very active in both the Canteen and the Guild; that she is a consistent follower of the Communist Party Line and may be a member of the Communist Party but this is not known to be a fact.

DALTON TRUMBO (James Dalton Trumbo)

TRUMBO was born in Colorado and attended the Colorado University and the University of Southern California and has been a writer for M.G.M. Studio for the past five years or more.

TRUMBO is a well-known screen writer and a member of the League of American Writers and a Novelist. He was also a member of the American Peace Mobilization and was very active in writing and speaking for that organization. He was a member of the Hollywood Anti-Nazi League and made many speeches for that organization, and has written various pamphlets for that and other front organizations. He wrote a pamphlet in support of Communist and HARRY BRIDGES. He wrote the booklet "JOHNNY GOT HIS GUN" and "JOHNNY DOESN'T WANT HIS GUN". He is at the present time producing the motion picture "THIRTY SECONDS OVER TOKYO" for which he wrote the script.

TRUMBO is the author of "THE REMARKABLE ANDREW". In this connection Source "E" has reported that TRUMBO stated that one chapter of his book "THE REVOLT" was too true in regard to its dealings with the President's well-known Destroyer deal and that the publishers had asked him to delete it; that this passage in the book dealt with the idea of President ANDREW JOHNSON's ghost appearing to a news reporter and on being told that "50 American destroyers were being given to the British by the President, yelled, 'This is treason - - treason, I tell you'".

The New York Bureau Office has reported that TRUMBO in company with DONALD OGDEN STEWART, SHERIDAN GIBNEY, SIDNEY BUCHMAN, HELEN GAHAGEN, IRVING ASHER, PAUL MUNI, and GARSON KANIN, all well-known Communist Party members or fellow travelers addressed a dinner sponsored by the Hollywood chapter of the League of American writers at the Beverly Wilshire Hotel in Beverly Hills, California, on November 26, 1940.

Source "E" further stated that the Federal Government had portrayed the laboring class in the use of troops in breaking up the strike at the North American Aviation, Inc., in June, 1941 at Inglewood, California, in violation of constitutional rights to strike and the right of free speech and assembly. TRUMBO stated that the Federal Government had taken it upon itself to discriminate against such racial labor heroes as HARRY BRIDGES, thereby violating constitutional civil liberties.

TRUMBO wrote a booklet, the title of which was "HARRY BRIDGES - - A DISCUSSION OF THE LATEST EFFORTS TO DEPORT CIVIL LIBERTIES AND THE RIGHTS OF AMERICAN LABOR". This booklet was sold and distributed in large numbers by the Communist Party during the deportation hearing of HARRY BRIDGES in San Francisco early in 1941.

DALTON TRUMBO's name appears as one of the six hundred signers of an open letter to President ROOSEVELT, asking him to rescind the decision of Attorney General BIDDLE to deport BRIDGES. The names of a large number of well-known Communist Party members and fellow travelers are in the list of the parties signing the letter.

After HITLER attacked STALIN June 22, 1941, TRUMBO wrote a pamphlet entitled: "AN OPEN LETTER TO THE AMERICAN PEOPLE", which demanded all-out aid to Britain, all-out participation in the war and a second front. This pamphlet was widely distributed by Communists and was given away at Communist book stores.

PAUL JAFFEE:

Source "F" has stated that JAFFEE is a member of the Board of Directors of the Hollywood Canteen and that he is the Recording Secretary of Laboratory Technicians, Local #683 of the I.A.T.S.E. Source has stated that the Communists in this union took over the control in the union in 1941 and have continued in control since that time. This union has followed the Communist Party line from isolation to the present war; has passed all resolutions identical with those of the Communist Party program and is affiliated with Hollywood Writers Mobilization for Defense, Labors Unity for Victory Committee, and has issued pamphlets protesting the deportation proceedings against HARRY BRIDGES; passed resolutions demanding a second front; passed resolutions on independence of India; and has urged resolutions on the Negro question.

Source has stated that JAFFEE works in connection with the League of American Writers and supports every phase of Communist Front activity; that he has engaged in Communist activities for the past several years and has collaborated with CARROLL HOLLISTER, SPIKE WALLACE and JOHN GARFIELD in the control of the Canteen.

Source also stated that it has been reported that he is the leader of the Communist Party fraction in Laboratory Technicians, Local #683 I.A.T.S.E., a union which is completely under control of the Communist Party.

FLORENCE CADRIZ:

FLORENCE CADRIZ is one of the incorporators of the Hollywood Canteen and a member of the Board of Directors; a member of Musicians Union, Local #47; and a member of the Executive Committee of the Canteen. She has fought in favor

of the "Mixed Dancing Resolution" which has been under discussion by the Board of Directors of the Canteen and on one occasion she stated that JOHN GARFIELD at a previous meeting had strongly favored mixed dancing.

LESTER COLE:

Source "F" has stated that COLE is a Hollywood screen writer and one of the founders of the League of American Writers and a follower of the Communist Party line since 1935. Source stated that COLE has supported all Communist front organizations and has been one of the most active and a close associate of DONALD OGDEN STEWART, ELLA MAE WINTER, SAM CORNETZ, CLIFFORD ODETS, ERSKINE CALDWELL, HERBERT BIBERMAN, GUY ENDORE, JOHN HOWARD LAWSON, ALBERT MALTZ, MICHAEL BLANKFORT, ROBERT ROSEN, and others. COLE signed the call to the 4th Writers Congress and participated in the American Peace Mobilization; the Hollywood Anti-Nazi League; Hollywood Theatre Alliance; and other Communist front organizations.

FLORINE BALE:

FLORINE BALE is the business representative of the American Guild of Variety Artists. She is a member of the Board of Directors of the Hollywood Canteen. She has protested against mixed dancing at the Canteen and stated that many of the girl members of her union had refused to visit the Canteen to entertain because attempts were made to coerce them into dancing with Negroes. She has stated that at former meetings of the Board of Directors the question of making mixed dancing compulsory was favorably discussed.

JULES C. STEIN:

Source "F" has stated that STEIN is a motion picture promoter and from the position he has taken on the mixed dancing resolution indicates that he is against the Communist faction in the Canteen on this question. Informant stated that STEIN has also taken positions against other subversive activities which have been proposed by the Communist faction of the Board of Directors of the Canteen.

Mrs. JULES C. STEIN:

Source "F" has stated that Mrs. STEIN has been active in the affairs of the Canteen and has followed her husband in the position which he has taken in the Canteen's affairs.

JOHN TeGROEN:

Source "F" has stated that TeGROEN is a member of the Musicians Union #47 and a member of the Communist Party faction in that group; that he follows SPIKE WALLACE, Business Agent of the Musicians Union, in his support of the Communist Party line in all affairs of the Union.

MASON W. (Mickey) MORRIS:

Source "F" has stated that Mickey MORRIS is a member of ~~Local~~ #80 of Studio Grips of the I.A.T.S.E. Source stated that he was supported by the Communist faction of that union in the last election for business representative of the union, but MORRIS was defeated. Source stated that he is sympathetic with the Communist front organizations.

CARL HEAD:

Source "F" has stated that HEAD is a member of the ~~Studio Painters~~ ~~Local~~ #614, which is a Communist dominated union; that HEAD is a strong follower of the Communist Party line and a close friend of HERBERT K. SORRELL, Business Agent of this union. SORRELL is an outstanding Communist in Hollywood and rules this union with an iron hand.

JOHN BAYLAN:

Source "F" has informed that BAYLAN is a radio writer and a member of the League of American Writers and a strong Communist Party line follower; that he is the author of several pamphlets put out by "Book-Tab", a Communist Publishing House in New York City. He is a teacher in the Writers School which is considered a Communist front organization.

PEPE RUIZ:

Source "F" has stated that RUIZ is a member of the Screen Cartoonist Guild and one of the leaders of this guild, and that this guild is strongly sympathetic to the Communist cause and follows the Communist Party lines.

MEDIA CANTINI:

Source "F" has stated that CANTINI is a member of the Screen Office Employees Guild and a sister of ETTORIO CANTINI who was a member of the Young Communist League in 1934 and 1935. ETTORIO CANTINI is employed at the present time as a clerk in the Sheriff's Office of the Los Angeles County.

CAMERON SHIPP:

Source "F" has informed that SHIPP is a member of the Screen Publicists Guild and that he belongs to that faction of this organization which follows the Communist Party Line.

SAM ALBERTS:

Source "F" has stated that ALBERTS is a member of Local #47 of the Musicians Union and is a member of the Communist Party fraction of that union. He was arrested in Los Angeles in 1929 with WILLIAM Z. FOSTER, General Secretary of the Communist Party, at which time WILLIAM Z. FOSTER was run out of the State of California. ALBERTS was one of the organizers of the Canteen and is a close follower of the Communist Party line. He is believed to have been a member of the Communist Party for many years.

CHARLES K. FELDMAN:

CHARLES K. FELDMAN is a booking agent in the motion picture business. As far as it is known he has no Communist Party connections.

MERVYN LEROY:

LEROY is a motion picture producer and works for WARNER BROTHERS. He is a very strong sympathizer with the Communist Party and engages in Communist Party activities.

GEORGE RAMSAY:

Source "F" has stated that RAMSAY is a member of the Screen Publicists Guild and is a follower of the Communist Party line. However, he is not believed to be a Communist Party member. He could not hold the position in his union if he did not follow the Communist Party line.

CASEY ROBINSON:

Source "F" has informed that ROBINSON is a producer of screen plays and that he is now making the picture "Revenge" at R.K.O. The advance information relative to this picture is that it will contain Russian and Communist propaganda.

LINDSAY THOMPSON:

Source "F" has informed that THOMPSON is a member of Local #728 of

Studio Laborers of the I.A.T.S.E. He is not a Communist Party member and does not follow the Communist Party line.

KAY KYSER:

Source "F" has informed that KAY KYSER is the leader of KAY KYSER's Band. Source further stated that it is his belief that KAY KYSER is not a Communist but he at times appears to be a Party line follower and engages to some extent in Communist Party line activities. Source states, however, that this may be due to the fact that he may consider such activities necessary in order to further the business of his band.

Baron MOREHEAD:

Source "F" has stated that MOREHEAD is a Negro and is a member of the Musicians Union, Local #767, which is a Negro organization of the A.F. of L. Source stated that he does not know of any outright Communist activity on the part of MOREHEAD but he seems to be favorable to the racial discrimination stand of the Communist Party.

JOHN FORD:

Source "F" has stated that JOHN FORD is a motion picture director and has been closely associated with the Communist Party and is definitely identified with the Hollywood Anti-Nazi League and the motion picture Democratic Committee which have been very active Communist front organizations.

Mrs. JOHN FORD:

Source "F" has stated that Mrs. FORD has taken a very definite stand against mixed dancing in the Canteen; that she has been very active in the affairs of the Canteen but that he knows of no activities on her part which would brand her as a Communist or a Communist Party line follower.

PERSONS KNOWN TO BE NON-COMMUNISTS AND NOT COMMUNIST SYMPATHIZERS:

The following persons have been very active in the motion picture business in Los Angeles, but as far as is known they have not taken any stand which would indicate they have participated in Communist activities or have engaged in subversive activities of any kind:

BILLIE BURKE, Actress.

MACDONALD, member of Executive Committee, Hollywood Canteen, Publicity Man.

A. J. MORAN (Mickey), member of Executive Committee.

ANNE WARNER, wife of JACK WARNER of WARNER Brothers.

BOB HOPE, actor.

EDWARD J. MANNIX, motion picture director.

RUFUS LANTIERE, Universal Studio associate.

RALPH CLARE, member of Executive Committee of the Canteen; Secretary of Studio Drivers, #399; strongly opposed to Communism.

HARRY CROCKER, member of the Executive Committee of the Canteen; writer and works for the Los Angeles Examiner at the present time. He planned the recent elopement of CHARLIE CHAPLIN and ONA O'NEIL to Santa Barbara where they were married. He is strongly opposed to Communism.

PERSONS NAMED IN CONNECTION WITH CANTEEN WHOSE ACTIVITIES ARE UNKNOWN:

CATHERINE BALDWIN, member of Executive Committee of Canteen.

WILLIAM H. SIMON " " " " " "

MERDA STAFFORD, member of Board of Directors of Canteen.

A. C. MONEVARO, " " " " " "

GEORGE FIFELD, " " " " " "

NELLIE MARIE MANLEY, " " " " " "

LESLIE THOMAS, " " " " " "

JAMES BRIGHAM, " " " " " "

GERALD DAVIDSON, " " " " " "

JOHN RAYMOND, " " " " " "

HANS PETERS, " " " " " "

L. C. DAVIS, " " " " " "

AL ~~X~~BAWGER, member of Board of Directors of Canteen.

MILANI, chef at Canteen.

AL ~~X~~MELNICK, business unknown.

EMANUEL ~~X~~COMINSKY, business unknown.

ALEX ~~X~~COMINSKY, business unknown.

SARAH ~~X~~COMINSKY, business unknown.

JOSEPH ~~X~~ACHRON, business unknown.

DON ~~X~~CHRISTLIEB, business unknown.

SOL ~~X~~KAPLIN, business unknown.

ELMER ~~X~~FAIN, business unknown.

PEDRO ~~X~~LOPEZ, musician.

- P E N D I N G -

UNDEVELOPED LEADS:

THE LOS ANGELES FIELD DIVISION:

At Los Angeles, California, the activities of this organization will be closely followed and reports will be made covering same.

The New York and San Francisco offices are receiving copy of this report as it contains information of interest to both offices.

SOURCES OF INFORMATION:

FOIA b 7 - D

FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

Form No. 1
THIS CASE ORIGINATED AT **LOS ANGELES**

FILE NO. **100-18780**

REPORT MADE AT LOS ANGELES	DATE WHEN MADE 10/5/43	PERIOD FOR WHICH MADE 9/25, 26/43	REPORT MADE BY JAMES G. FINDLAY KPM
TITLE HOLLYWOOD CANTEN			CHARACTER OF CASE INTERNAL SECURITY - C

SYNOPSIS OF FACTS:

Only one Executive Board meeting has been held since 7/8/43, which dealt with the indiscriminate dancing of white and colored people for the alleged purpose of breaking down discrimination along racial lines. The attempt to force this issue has been apparently tabled for the present, although some mixed race dancing takes place. The popularity which the Canteen enjoyed at first is beginning to lapse.

- P -

REFERENCE:

Report of Special Agent JAMES G. FINDLAY, Los Angeles, California, August 12, 1943.

DETAILS:

AT LOS ANGELES, CALIFORNIA.

Source A has been observing, for some time, the activities at the HOLLYWOOD CANTEN, and has made reports covering the alleged mixed dancing of the races at the CANTEN with alleged purpose of breaking down discrimination.

Source A has reported that since his former report on this organization only one meeting of the Executive Board has been held which was the first week in September. At this meeting, the same question of mixed dancing between Negroes and Whites was brought up, and it was decided that the rule previously established of leaving this question to the individual for decision would be continued.

COPY DESTROYED Source A further advised that attempts have been made

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by the Communist faction on the Executive Board to make mixed dancing mandatory on the part of the hostesses, but this caused dissension among the board members, and it has now been decided as above.

The one millionth member of the armed forces has now passed through the doors of the CANTEEN. This event was celebrated two weeks ago.

Source A stated further that the activities at the present time are the same as heretofore. As this CANTEEN is for the entertainment of soldiers and sailors primarily and there is constant stream going through the building, the possibility of forthright propaganda being spread is limited. For this reason the CANTEEN is ceasing to get the same attention from the Communists as it did previously. One of its primary reasons for existence originally was that the Communists meant to use it to bring Negro and White soldiers together and to have the hostesses dance with Negro soldiers, the purpose being to break down discrimination on racial lines. As this attempt raised a storm of protest among certain members of the Executive Board, the attempt to force this issue has been laid aside temporarily.

However, mixed dancing is being indulged in by individual action, but not to any great extent.

Source A further stated that the Communists do not look upon the establishment of the CANTEEN as a great victory. They are not showing the great interest they did formerly.

- P E N D I N G -

UNDEVELOPED LEADS

THE LOS ANGELES FIELD DIVISION

At Los Angeles, California, will continue to observe the activities of the Communists who are known to be in charge of the HOLLYWOOD CANTEEN and the activities carried on at the CANTEEN, and will report any facts of interest.

SOURCE OF INFORMATION

A

FOIA b 7 - D

FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

Form No. 1

THIS CASE ORIGINATED AT

LOS ANGELES

FILE NO.

100-18780

REPORT MADE AT LOS ANGELES	DATE WHEN MADE 12/13/43	PERIOD FOR WHICH MADE 11/18 12/2/43	REPORT MADE BY JAMES G. FINDLAY
TITLE HOLLYWOOD CANTEEN			CHARACTER OF CASE INTERNAL SECURITY - C

SYNOPSIS OF FACTS:

The same management and control are in charge of the activities of this organization. The question of mixed dancing of white and colored persons has been tabled for the present. Publicity about canteen is slackening, and the opportunity for spreading Communist propaganda is not believed to be so successful as had been anticipated. It is reported that Warner Brothers is going to make a picture entitled, "Hollywood Canteen."

- P -

REFERENCE:

Report of Special Agent JAMES G. FINDLAY, dated 10/5/43, at Los Angeles

DETAILS:

AT LOS ANGELES, CALIFORNIA

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED
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Source A has observed the activities of the Hollywood Canteen and has reported that the management and control of the canteen have remained the same since its inception.

The question of mixed dancing by white and colored persons has not come to a final conclusion, but it has been voted by the Executive Board that this matter be permitted to remain as it has been, that is, a matter of personal choice; and, if whites wish to dance with the colored people, they may do so; and if the colored people wish to dance with the whites, they may do so; but there will be no compulsion or set rule requiring a person of one race to

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dance with a person of another race.

This source has further reported that there has been a very noticeable slackening of interest in the project by those who hoped to use it for purposes of spreading propaganda of the Communist variety. Source also stated that great numbers of the military forces have visited and are still visiting the canteen; that the number is so great that it is necessary for them to pass through so quickly that there is little opportunity for prolonged fraternization by those in charge of the canteen with members of the armed forces. By about October 15, 1943, one million military men and women had passed through the canteen, and a celebration of that event was widely publicized.

Source also stated that there is a large USO center about two blocks away from the canteen; that this USO center is very popular, and the crowds that go there are now as large as those that go to the canteen, and to some extent, perhaps, this has decreased the attendance at the canteen.

On September 13, 1943, Warner Brothers Motion Picture Producers announced that they had paid \$250,000 for the rights to make the picture, "Hollywood Canteen." In addition to this outright sum, 40% of the earnings of the picture will also be given to the canteen. Twenty five percent of this money is to be given by Hollywood Canteen to the New York Stage Door Canteen.

Source advised that the efforts of the Hollywood Communists and fellow travelers have been diverted to a great extent from the canteen, on account of the reasons stated above, and that they are now centering on other front organizations which afford better channels for propaganda activities.

- P E N D I N G -

UNDEVELOPED LEADS

LOS ANGELES FIELD DIVISION

At Los Angeles, California, will continue to observe the activities of the Communists who are known to be in charge of the Hollywood Canteen and the activities at the canteen, and will report facts of interest.

SOURCES OF INFORMATION

Source A -

FOIA b 7 - D

FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

Form No. 1

THIS CASE ORIGINATED AT: **LOS ANGELES, CALIFORNIA**

FILE NO. **100-18780**

REPORT MADE AT LOS ANGELES	DATE WHEN MADE 3/15/44	PERIOD FOR WHICH MADE 3/6-8/44	REPORT MADE BY JAMES G. FINDLAY GG
TITLE HOLLYWOOD CANTREEN			CHARACTER OF CASE INTERNAL SECURITY - C

SYNOPSIS OF FACTS:

The officers and executive board of the Hollywood Canteen have remained the same except that four new members have been added to the executive board. Accusations were made that BETTE DAVIS, President of the Canteen, was using the Canteen to advertise herself as a motion picture celebrity but these were ineffective and she was re-elected President of the Board. Warner Brothers signed a contract to make a picture "Hollywood Canteen" but discontinued shooting the picture when the Screen Actors Guild demanded full pay for all actors and actresses appearing and it was intended to have all leading actors and actresses appear in the picture. The matter is now in litigation. The "mixed races dancing" controversy has been lying dormant and the interest in the Canteen seems to be lagging and the Communists seem to be losing interest.

- P -

REFERENCE:

Report of Special Agent JAMES G. FINDLAY, dated 12/13/43, at Los Angeles, California.

DETAILS:

AT LOS ANGELES, CALIFORNIA

Source "A" has observed the activities of the Hollywood Canteen and has reported that the management has remained the same as it was during 1943 with the exception that at the annual election of officers and directors the same officers and board of directors were re-elected unanimously for another

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L A 100-18780

year. However, the following persons were added to the Board of Directors:

SOL LESSER, Motion Picture Producer.
Mrs. IDA KOVERMAN, sister of LOUIS B. MAYER.
SYBIL BRAND, wife of HARRY BRAND, Motion Picture Producer.
HARRIET PARSONS, daughter of LOUELLA PARSONS, Hollywood
Columnist for the Hearst Newspapers.

Source "A" further advised that during the fall of 1943 certain individuals connected with the Canteen began criticizing BETTE DAVIS, Motion Picture Actress, who has been President of the Canteen's Board of Directors since its inception. The complaint was that it had become the "Bette Davis Canteen" and that she had been using it to advertise herself. She became very angry and announced her resignation on December 6, 1943, but her resignation was not accepted and matters remained in that state until February 28, 1944, at which time she was re-elected President and apparently the criticism of her personally has ceased.

Source "A" further reported that there has been a new development in the affairs of the Canteen, which, while not of a political nature, has had some effect on the venture.

Source stated that Warner Brothers Motion Picture Producers, sensing the extreme publicity value of the Canteen, proposed making a picture based upon the project. This corporation entered into an agreement with the Canteen whereby a motion picture "Hollywood Canteen" would be produced and in return for the use of the title, the Canteen was to receive a percentage of the net profits on the picture.

Source advised that almost every star of prominence in Hollywood had at one time or another taken part in the activities of the Canteen. Warner Brothers proposed that each and everyone of these stars be represented in the picture, although many of them were under contract to other studios.

At this point the Screen Actors Guild, an A. F. of L. Union of Actors in the motion picture industry, which virtually has a closed shop with the producers, stepped in and invoked Rule #33 of its by-laws, which states that no actress or actor can appear in any picture without receiving his or her established salary even though he or she merely walks in front of the camera.

Warner Brothers had already prepared the picture and were shooting the script when they heard of this and they complained that this would make the cost of the picture prohibitive. They filed suit in the Los Angeles Court enjoining the Screen Actors Guild from invoking Rule #33 and asking damages in the sum of \$500,000.

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Source stated that since filing the original complaint, Warner Brothers has filed an amended complaint in which they have dropped the claim for damages and are now merely asking for a restraining order to prevent the enforcement of Rule #33, without, however, disclaiming any future claim for damages. At the present time the suit is before the courts on this basis.

Source stated that the situation does not seem to have any political implications and is merely a conflict between Warner Brothers and a labor organization. The Communist position on this issue favors Warner Brothers because of the contention that the picture will aid the war effort as a propaganda medium.

Source "B" has advised that the by-laws of the Canteen have been changed to permit money which may be left over after the war to be used for scientific research. Source further advised that it is likely that the Canteen will have a considerable amount of money left over. Source stated that the Canteen recently got a check for \$140,000 from the receipts of the picture "Stage Door Canteen" and that Warner Brothers are presently making a picture called "Hollywood Canteen" from which the Canteen will also receive a large sum of money.

This source also reported that the Communist members of the Board have suggested that someone who is not in films should remain at the head of the canteen.

"Variety", the trade paper of the motion picture industry, for December 13, 1943, stated that Warner Brothers was having trouble with the Screen Actors Guild over the question of salaries for players appearing in "Hollywood Canteen". It stated that the studio was proceeding on the theory that the performers could be hired for a pro rata of their customary salary because the Canteen was being given a \$250,000 advance with a forty per cent cut and in view of brief appearances being required. It further stated that the Screen Actors Guild let the bars down somewhat for "Stage Door Canteen" but actors generally take the position that this was a mistake and opened the door for many future requests, some of which would be border-line cases. It appears that the Screen Actors Guild had adopted a rule sometime ago forbidding members to accept less than their customary salary for radio, stage and screen appearances.

The article in "Variety" stated that the negative cost to Warner Brothers for the two weeks' work on the picture was around \$500,000. The studio had asked talent to work at reasonable prices for brief appearances of celebrities. The studio figured it could not pay a star \$50,000 to \$150,000 for one-day sequence.

Source "A" has reported that Mrs. JOHN FORD, wife of the motion picture director, JOHN FORD, on December 6, 1943, insisted that the "mixed races dancing" question be brought up as she was anxious to get the Negro question settled and desired that this form of dancing be prohibited but so far nothing further has been done and the rule of "make your own choice" of dancing partner prevails. Source further stated that there has not been any incidents recently which have caused a "flare up" on the race question.

Source "A" reported that Mrs. FORD has on many occasions reported small incidents to the policeman on duty at the Canteen; that these matters had been discussed with JOHN FORD by the policeman and JOHN FORD had told the policeman that Mrs. FORD was inclined to become agitated and excited about racial matters, especially where Negroes were involved, and Mr. FORD told the officer that he should take Mrs. FORD out of the Canteen if she insisted in making protests which were apparently of little consequence.

Source "A" informed that on February 23, 1944, the Hollywood Canteen staged a celebration of the 26th Anniversary of the Red Army of the Soviet Union. This event was given much publicity and a special Russian show was presented for "800 servicemen from the American armed forces who packed the Canteen", as stated by the "People's World", West Coast Communist publication. Source stated that a feature of the evening's celebration was the presentation of five Soviet sailors and officers who, according to this publication, received a tremendous ovation.

Source stated that a giant birthday cake inscribed "greetings to the Red Army on its 26th Anniversary" was presented by BETTE DAVIS, President of the Canteen. Miss DAVIS follows the lead of the Communist elements in Hollywood and is one of their favorite "fronters".

Source stated that the following persons took part in these proceedings:

ADIA KUZNETSOFF, Russian basso. No record of activities.

LEON BELASCO, Russian-born stage and screen actor. No record.

ALAN MOWBRAY, British actor. No record.

IRENE MANNING, Screen actress. No record.

AKIM TAMIROFF, Russian-born actor. Follower of the Communist Party line.

LEONID KINSKY, Actor and a close follower of the Communist Party line.

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~~DOOLEY~~ WILSON, Actor, also a follower of the Communist Party line and extremely active in Communist affairs.

~~MISCHA~~ AUER, Russian-born actor; lately he has been following the Communist Party line in all matters in Hollywood.

~~FRANK~~ TUTTLE, Motion Picture Director and one of the leading Communists in Hollywood.

~~EARL~~ ROBINSON, Author and song writer. ROBINSON is one of the most fanatical Communists in the Party in Hollywood and was one of the main leaders in the American Peace Mobilization.

Source stated that this entire program was devoted to Russian propaganda and was probably the most successful from the Communist standpoint ever put over by the Canteen.

Source "A" has further stated that a member of the Board of Directors of the Canteen told him on February 29, 1944, that the Communists seem to be losing interest in the Canteen because of the fact that as a propaganda instrument it has not been of particular value to them. He stated that servicemen who visit Hollywood and the Canteen are out for a good time and are not interested in propaganda; that the servicemen are hurried through the Canteen by the hundreds, each group going through spending only from twenty to thirty minutes within the building. This being true, there is little opportunity for contact with them by those Communists who take part in the entertainment or in rendering service to the men. This, source stated, was noticeable at the meetings of the Board of Directors, where the Communist elements have ceased their aggressiveness.

- P E N D I N G -

L A 100-18780

UNDEVELOPED LEADS

THE LOS ANGELES FIELD DIVISION

At Los Angeles, California, will continue to observe the activities of the Communists who are known to be in charge of the Hollywood Canteen and the activities of the Canteen and will report facts of interest.

L A 100-18780

SOURCES OF INFORMATION

SOURCE "A"

SOURCE "B"

FOIA(b) 7 - D

Information here appears in memo, L.A.
File 100-18780-29, dated December 27, 1943.

FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

Form No. 1

THIS CASE ORIGINATED AT **LOS ANGELES, CALIFORNIA**

FILE NO. **100-18780**

REPORT MADE AT LOS ANGELES	DATE WHEN MADE 3/15/44	PERIOD FOR WHICH MADE 3/6-8/44	REPORT MADE BY JAMES G. FINDLAY CG
TITLE HOLLYWOOD CANTEEN			CHARACTER OF CASE INTERNAL SECURITY - C

SYNOPSIS OF FACTS:

The officers and executive board of the Hollywood Canteen have remained the same except that four new members have been added to the executive board. Accusations were made that BETTE DAVIS, President of the Canteen, was using the Canteen to advertise herself as a motion picture celebrity but these were ineffective and she was re-elected President of the Board. Warner Brothers signed a contract to make a picture "Hollywood Canteen" but discontinued shooting the picture when the Screen Actors Guild demanded full pay for all actors and actresses appearing and it was intended to have all leading actors and actresses appear in the picture. The matter is now in litigation. The "mixed races dancing" controversy has been lying dormant and the interest in the Canteen seems to be lagging and the Communists seem to be losing interest.

- P -

REFERENCE:

Report of Special Agent JAMES G. FINDLAY, dated 12/13/43, at Los Angeles, California.

DETAILS:

AT LOS ANGELES, CALIFORNIA

Source "A" has observed the activities of the Hollywood Canteen and has reported that the management has remained the same as it was during 1943 with the exception that at the annual election of officers and directors the same officers and board of directors were re-elected unanimously for another

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FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

Form No. 1

THIS CASE ORIGINATED AT

LOS ANGELES

LA

FILE NO. 100-18780

REPORT MADE AT LOS ANGELES	DATE WHEN MADE 5/9/44	PERIOD FOR WHICH MADE 5/4,6/44	REPORT MADE BY JAMES G. FINDLAY
TITLE HOLLYWOOD CANTEN			CHARACTER OF CASE INTERNAL SECURITY - C

SYNOPSIS OF FACTS:

The Hollywood Canteen furnished entertainment to soldiers in the shape of lunches and dancing. The agitation relative to mixed race dancing has apparently subsided. Entertainment period for each group is about thirty minutes. Litigation between Warners Brothers and Canteen was settled on April 18, 1944, and the picture, "Hollywood Canteen" is proceeding to completion. Apparently the Communists have lost interest in the Canteen as propaganda opportunities have fallen down.

REFERENCE: Report of Special Agent JAMES G. FINDLAY, Los Angeles, March 15, 1944.

DETAILS: AT LOS ANGELES, CALIFORNIA

Source A has reported that the activities of the Hollywood Canteen remain about the same as they have been for the last two or three months in the entertainment of servicemen visiting the Hollywood area. This source stated that the entertainment is in the form of shows, band music, and entertainers combined with dancing on the floor of the canteen.

Source A stated that the method of operation is to send groups of soldiers and sailors through the establishment, entering the front door and leaving by the back door; that when a particular group leaves, another group is lined up for entrance and the time spent within the building by each group is approximately thirty minutes.

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Source A stated that the affairs of the Canteen are conducted by an executive board acting as the control and executive committee which has charge of the management of the Canteen. He further stated that there has been no change in the personnel of the executive board during the past two months.

Source further informed that the dispute which had arisen between the Hollywood Canteen and Warner Brothers Motion Picture Studio relative to making the picture, "Hollywood Canteen", which resulted in court action in the Superior Court of Los Angeles County wherein Warner Brothers sued the Canteen for damages including the Screen Actors Guild in the suit, has now been settled out of court and the motion picture, "Hollywood Canteen" will proceed to completion by Warner Brothers.

The cause for the court action was that a labor dispute resulted between the studio and the Actors Guild involving certain screen stars who were to appear in the picture.

Source A also informed that another damage case involving the Canteen was terminated on May 2, 1944, in which a young actress, FLORIDA EDWARDS, was injured while dancing with a soldier on Halloween night in 1942. The facts in that case were that she was violently thrown to the floor during a wild dancing episode and claimed damages from the Canteen. This case was also settled out of court for \$8170.

Source informed that the Canteen has been believed from the beginning was inspired originally by Communist elements whose purpose it was to make contact with men in the armed forces and spread propaganda among them. He also stated that another theme which was proposed at the beginning was the emphasis placed on equality between the negro and white races.

Source A informed that following out this line there were attempts made to force mixed dancing between the negro soldiers and the white entertainers and hostesses. This caused much dissension among the executive board members.

Source A informed that in an interview with RALPH CLARE, a member of the executive board who is very active in the affairs of the Canteen and who is also fully aware of the Communist influence therein, CLARE told Source that in his, CLARE'S, opinion the Communists are now losing interest in the Canteen and that this is due to the fact that they have learned that the soldiers and sailors come to the Canteen for amusement only; that they are not at all interested in political propaganda. Source A stated that CLARE further advised that due to the large numbers of servicemen put through the Canteen nightly and because they are only in the building a very short time, approximately thirty minutes, it is impossible for any political questions to be raised or for a lasting contact to be made.

LA 100-18780

Source A further advised that Mr. CLARE stated that publicity relative to the Canteen is tapering off and the same efforts are not being made to encourage the military forces to frequent the place. He further stated that the Canteen is seldom mentioned in the public press except in minor notices. He stated that all large displays are now absent and the Canteen seems to be drifting along in routine fashion.

- PENDING -

LA 100-18780

UNDEVELOPED LEADS

THE LOS ANGELES FIELD DIVISION

AT LOS ANGELES, CALIFORNIA

Will continue to observe the activities of the Communists who are known to be in charge of the Hollywood Canteen and the activities of the Canteen and will report same.

LA 100-18780

SOURCES OF INFORMATION

SOURCE A

FOIA b 7 - D

FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

Form No. 1

THIS CASE ORIGINATED AT

LOS ANGELES

FILE NO. 100-18780

REPORT MADE AT LOS ANGELES	DATE WHEN MADE 8/30/44	PERIOD FOR WHICH MADE 8/22, 25, 26/44	REPORT MADE BY JAMES G. FINDLAY MRM
TITLE HOLLYWOOD CANTEEN			CHARACTER OF CASE INTERNAL SECURITY - C

SYNOPSIS OF FACTS:

BETTE DAVIS places letter of thanks in the Hollywood Reporter and Variety thanking the 9000 actors, actresses, and others who have donated their services to the Hollywood Canteen. On August 15, 1944 Communist literature put out by the Workers Library Publishers of New York having the approval of EARL BROWDER and literature dealing with the CIO Political Action Committee was distributed and given away at the Hollywood Canteen. This matter was called to the attention of the officials of the canteen and it was stopped. \$500,000.00 damage suit against Warner Bros. has been settled for \$250,000.00. The picture "Hollywood Canteen", Warner Bros. picture, will appear in near future.

- P -

REFERENCE:

Report of SA JAMES G. FINDLAY, dated 5/9/44, at Los Angeles.

DETAILS:

AT LOS ANGELES, CALIFORNIA

The Hollywood Reporter for July 13, 1944 printed an open letter to the workers of the Hollywood Canteen in which the following was stated in part:

Dear Canteen Players:

"I have often wished that it were practical to have a mass meeting of all nine thousand of you so that the Board of Directors of the Canteen could in person thank each and every one for your untiring efforts-- also in spite of all the thank-you letters that we send out--there are many

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thousands of you that have never received one--our office staff isn't large enough.

"As you known, I have not been in the Canteen myself for many months---- Under the supervision of your manager CAREY WILSON and his committee the Canteen is flourishing--I will be back soon--I am looking forward to it. "

She then names eighty-eight persons who have been active in the "Canteen picture." As to the members of all the guilds and unions concerned--- I would need more than one issue to name you all--there is nothing adequate to say that would really express our thanks. Without you, suffice it to say, the Canteen wouldn't be.

"So--even though you have received no official recognition-- it does not mean that your contributions are being overlooked--quite the contrary--- your entiring loyalty is being marvelled at.

Sincerely,

BETTE DAVIS "

The paper "Variety" also carried the same article by BETTE DAVIS, President of the Hollywood Canteen association.

Source A has reported that the Hollywood Canteen has carried on along the usual lines, hundreds of soldiers and sailors pass through the Canteen each night in groups, each group remaining a short time. Source further stated that while the Communist elements have been in charge of the activities of the Canteen, it has not been successful in a broad sense in making it an effective instrument of Communist propaganda. This is the viewpoint of a member of the Executive Board of the project.

Souce admitted that there has been a lag in activities of the Executive Board, there having been no meeting of the board for the past eight weeks; however, about August 15, 1944 an attempt was made to spread propaganda among the soldiers and sailors by placing and distributing within the Canteen certain Communist literature put out by the Workers Library publishers of New York. This firm is and has long been the official Communist publishing house in the United States.

Source A stated that three pamphlets written by EARL BROWDER were given away on this occasion. Other literature which dealt with the CIO Political Action Committee and BROWDER's connection therewith and which had his endorsement, were also given away. This literature was reported by

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servicemen attending the Canteen to the authorities and reports of this reached the daily press. One pamphlet was titled "Labor Faces '44's Challenge" a definite Communist publication. Another pamphlet was devoted to books by EARL BROWDER on Communism and Communist activities in labor unions.

Source further stated that when this was called to the attention of the Canteen officials, MAX MILLER, press agent for the Canteen denied that the Canteen officially had anything to do with this literature and that it was "sneaked in by somebody." Further, source A advised that the Executive Board of the Canteen has been made very sensitive to Communist attempts at propaganda caused by the violent opposition of certain members of the Board to the Communists.

Source A advised that a suit had been filed in court for damages against the Screen Actor's Guild, a Hollywood labor union representing screen actors, for \$500,000 damages because of the union forbidding certain screen stars working in motion pictures based on the Canteen unless Warner Brothers who contemplated making the picture would pay the stars their regular salaries. The union contended that their rules do not permit any member working for less than his or her regular salary. This suit was settled out of court, Warner Brothers agreeing to pay the sum of \$250,000 in cash to the Canteen for use of the title "Hollywood Canteen" and further they agreed to turn over to the Canteen 40 percent of the net profits of the picture. This picture "Hollywood Canteen" is now about finished and will shortly be released. The content of the picture cannot be determined as yet as it has not made its appearance.

Source A further stated that in a general sense it can be stated that interest in the Canteen as a project is waning. This is particularly noted in lack of Communist publicity or open support of the project in the Communist press which it received in the beginning.

- P E N D I N G -

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UNDEVELOPED LEADS

LOS ANGELES FIELD DIVISION

At Hollywood, California

Will continue to observe the activities of the Communist who are known to be in charge of the Hollywood Canteen and the activities of the Canteen, and will report same.

LA. 100-18780

SOURCE SHEET

Source A

CONFIDENTIAL

**Conf. Inlt.*

FOIA b 7 - D

FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

Form No. 1

THIS CASE ORIGINATED AT

LOS ANGELES

LA FILE NO. 100-18780

REPORT MADE AT LOS ANGELES	DATE WHEN MADE 11/14/44	PERIOD FOR WHICH MADE 11/13,14/44	REPORT MADE BY JAMES G. FINDLAY	RB
TITLE HOLLYWOOD CANTEEN			CHARACTER OF CASE INTERNAL SECURITY - C	

SYNOPSIS OF FACTS:

comp. - info.

Large sums of money have come into the possession of the Hollywood Canteen totaling perhaps \$1,000,000 or more, derived principally from the sale of interests in the motion picture entitled "Hollywood Canteen". Considerable controversy has arisen over the disposition of said funds. SOL LESSER is proposing the erection of a canteen in Paris, France, to be modeled after the canteen in Hollywood. [redacted] has informed that the Communist propaganda and racial equality features of the Canteen have largely disappeared, although effort was made to sell and distribute some of BROWDER'S books and pamphlets and Political Action propaganda there recently.

1cc D/P 88 4-5-47 *1cc D/R 88 4-5-47* *- P -*

REFERENCE: Report of Special Agent JAMES G. FINDLAY, Los Angeles, August 30, 1944.

DETAILS: AT LOS ANGELES, CALIFORNIA

The Hollywood Reporter recently reported that efforts were being made by those who operate the Hollywood Canteen to make some arrangements concerning the huge funds which are accruing to the Hollywood Canteen partially as a result of their cut in the motion picture now being made entitled "Hollywood Canteen". This article stated that these funds at present amount to about \$250,000 and may top the

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million dollar mark by the time the war is over.

Information was also furnished the Los Angeles Office by Source A concerning pressure being exerted by the Communists in an effort to obtain control of the funds above mentioned. On July 6, 1944, this Source advised that JOHN HOWARD LAWSON conferred with LESTER COLE, now president of the Screen Writers Guild, advising him that there would be a meeting on Saturday, July 8, 1944, at 2 PM at the home of VICTOR SHAPIRO, Chateau Marmont, Apartment 7-G, 8221 Sunset Boulevard, Los Angeles, California. The purpose of this meeting, according to LAWSON, was to discuss the Hollywood Canteen situation. LAWSON told COLE that JULES STEIN of the Hollywood Canteen was trying to set up a trust fund for the money to be controlled by himself, BETTE DAVIS, and others. However, LAWSON stated that the Guild must retain control of this money as it would be excellent for union rehabilitation after the war. LAWSON also stated that MARJORIE POTTS, who is known to the Los Angeles Office and was the membership director and organizational secretary of the Los Angeles County Communist Party, USA, continuing in this capacity under the Communist Political Association, until the middle of July, 1944, would contact the people who were to come to this meeting.

Source B advised that on July 7, 1944, MARJORIE POTTS contacted the following people, asking them to attend this meeting: SAM ALBERT (member of Branch O, Northwest Section, CPA, Los Angeles, California, 1944 CPA No. 45002); CAROL HOLLISTER (who could not attend, a member of Branch O, Northwest Section, CPA, 1944 CPA No. 45003); JEAN LEWIN, (who was and may still be secretary of the Hollywood Canteen, and is a member of Branch B, Northwest Section, CPA, and holds 1944 CPA No. 46896); BERNARD GORDON (labor chairman, Branch H, Northwest Section, 1944 CPA No. 4239); JUNE FORAY (member of Branch D, Northwest Section, CPA); HENRY BLANKFORT (radio writer and recently signed to a producer-writer contract at Universal Studios and executive secretary of Branch D, Northwest Section); MIN SELVIN (salaried figure organizer of the Screen Office Employees Guild, who was suggested recently as an organizer for the Free World Association. She is a member of Branch B, Northwest Section, and her CPA name is MARIAN LARSON); NORVAL D. CRUTCHER; and FRANK GREEN (reportedly connected with the Building Service Employees Union.

The Council of Studio Unions bulletin for July-August, 1944, under the heading, "C.S.U. Fighting Canteen Fund Switch", stated in part, "The C.S.U. has struck out vigorously against the latest proposal aimed at taking Hollywood Canteen funds out of the control of the unions and guilds whose members established, supported, and now carry on the activities of the world famous haven for servicemen.

"Funds are now being amassed which are expected to reach the neighborhood of one million dollars by the time the need for the Canteen's present

functions will have passed. But the Canteen's board of directors has voted that the Canteen's good work will not end with the war. Plans are now under way to devote remaining finances to the peacetime reconditioning, education, and hospitalization of members of the motion picture industry who will return from the armed forces.

"The proposal which has aroused conference opposition is the move to place the money in a trust fund to be controlled by a nine man board of trustees. Such a proposal, C. S. U. points out would remove the money from the control of the labor organizations without which the canteen would never have been organized.

"The board of directors composed of delegates from participating unions has passed a by-law to continue itself after the war. There is no reason, C.S.U. believes, why control of the post war fund should be removed from the hands of this democratic body and vested in individuals.

"At the same time that it went on record against such a deal, C.S.U. members expressed a desire to work in close cooperation with all other Canteen affiliates in any plan to provide the greatest advantage for their returning service members who will need aid in readjustment to civilian life."

The Hollywood Reporter for August 14, 1944, under the heading, "Canteen Has Its Biggest Week-End", stated in part, "One of the biggest week-ends in months was enjoyed by the Hollywood Canteen Saturday and yesterday. Stars were almost hanging from the chandeliers and included on Saturday such names as the King Sisters, RONNIE MANFIELD, NICODEMUS, DICK LANE, JOHN GARFIELD, LES FILLMORE, S. Z. SAKALL, CHILL WILLIAMS, DON BARCLAY, THAD SWIFT, and KAY KYSER.

"The show last night m.c.'d by Basil Rathbone included the Four Step Brothers, MARILYN MAXWELL, PHIL SILVERS, and RAGS RAGLAND, BEATRICE KAY, and VELOZ and YOLANDA. Ted Streater's Group made music like mad."

Variety for October 19, 1944, under the heading, "Lesser Will Make Canteen in Paris and Share Coin", stated "Sol Lesser has completed arrangements with American Theatre Wing to produce film carrying title of 'Canteen in Paris' and located at the Paris entertainment showplace to be opened by ATW. Producer will get full cooperation from ATW for photographing name talent appearing in the Paris canteen, in return for which he will give ATW percentage of picture's gross.

"Paris canteen will operate with talent from Americans on campshow tours and British entertainers on the circuit. Lesser figures to line up screenplay for the film here, after which director and camera crew will be dispatched to London and Paris to shoot specialties and background footage.

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"It is understood that ATW cut of film's profits will not be as great as for 'Stage Door Canteen', which Lesser turned out, and for which ATW and affiliated service organizations have received around \$2,300,000 to date."

The Hollywood Reporter for October 19, 1944 under the heading, "\$2,500,000 to Charity from Lesser 'Canteen'" stated, "Almost \$2,500,000 has been turned over to charities up to yesterday by the American Theatre Wing as proceeds from Sol Lesser's 'Stage Door Canteen'. Sharing mainly in the gross are the Motion Picture Relief Fund, Hollywood Canteen, Actors Fund of America and Hollywood Studio Club."

Variety for August 28, 1944, announced that MAC ~~BENOFF~~ had completed the writing assignment on Warner Brothers production "Hollywood Canteen".

Source C has informed that the Hollywood Canteen has almost completely abandoned the propaganda activities which had been engaged in earlier in its history and that no effort had been made for a long time to have mixed dancing and equality of races. He stated, however, that recently it had been reported in the newspapers that some of the books and booklets written by EARL BROWDER and some of the propaganda pamphlets and literature of the Communist Political Association and the CIO Political Action Committee had been sold or given away at the Canteen which had resulted in the American Legion and the soldiers in uniform protesting against it and it had been discontinued.

Agents secured a clipping from the Los Angeles Times dated November 2, 1944, which had the following heading: "Leftist Booklet 'Sneaked' Into Canteen Here". This clipping stated, "The nature of a pamphlet, copies of which some visiting soldiers and sailors said they found on two different days on a table in Hollywood Canteen, has been occasioning discussions among the servicemen, American Legion officials, State Senators and Army intelligence officers, it was learned yesterday.

"The pamphlet is entitled 'Labor Faces '44's Challenge' by Joseph ~~North~~ and stated that it is put out by Workers Library Publishers, Inc., New York. On the other cover page are advertised seven low-priced publications by the concern, three of them credited to Earl Browder, national Communist leader, and some of the others dealing with such subjects as Negroes and Communism and Communism in trade unions.

"In the pamphlet itself Browder is quoted in praise of the CIO. There is other praise of the CIO political activity conducted by Sidney ~~Hillman~~

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and various other passages that led some of the servicemen to report the pamphlet in such a light that it eventually reached officials concerned about subversive activities in this country.

" Max Millar, press agent for the Canteen, said the Canteen has a strict rule against the circulation in it of 'any kind of paraphernalia' and that if servicemen found such pamphlets in the Canteen apparently for free distribution there 'it was sneaked in by somebody'."

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LA 100-18780

UNDEVELOPED LEADS

THE LOS ANGELES FIELD DIVISION

AT HOLLYWOOD, CALIFORNIA

Will continue to observe the activities of the Communists who are known to be in charge of the Hollywood Canteen and of the activities at the canteen and will report on same.

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SOURCES

A

[REDACTED]
Information here appears in instant
file (100-18780-46)

B

[REDACTED] Information here appears in instant
file (100-18780-46)

C

[REDACTED]

FOIA(b) (7) - (D)

FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

Form No. 1

THIS CASE ORIGINATED AT **LOS ANGELES**

FILE NO. **100-18780**

REPORT MADE AT LOS ANGELES	DATE WHEN MADE 1/9/45	PERIOD FOR WHICH MADE 12/19, 20/44	REPORT MADE BY JAMES G. FINDLAY KH
TITLE HOLLYWOOD CANTEN <i>ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED DATE 2/10/01 BY SP6 BFW/ARL</i>			CHARACTER OF CASE INTERNAL SECURITY - C

SYNOPSIS OF FACTS:

The efforts of the Communists to use the HOLLYWOOD CANTEN for propaganda purposes have apparently become very quiet, but the Canteen remains under Communist domination. The motion picture, "Hollywood Canteen," has been made by Warner Bros. and the Canteen has received large sums of money as royalty. The picture was released 12/20/44. A short resume of the picture is being set out herein.

- P -

REFERENCE: Report of Special Agent James G. Findlay, Los Angeles, 11/14/44.

DETAILS: AT LOS ANGELES, CALIFORNIA.

Source A has informed that the activities of the HOLLYWOOD CANTEN are those of furnishing entertainment to the armed forces who visit Hollywood, and that the activities have narrowed down to routine matters. Visitors, who must be in military uniform, are ushered through the Canteen and allowed about thirty minutes' stay, during which there are many forms of entertainment and some dancing.

Source A states that the Canteen was originally inspired by Communists who enlisted the support of other Hollywood groups, some of them, particularly certain labor unions, being opposed to the actions of the Communists. The Communists attempted to use the Canteen for open propaganda purposes, but a strong opposition developed and they ceased any noticeable attempts along this line. After a period of several months,

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the non-Communist elements on the Executive Board lost interest in the venture. They have now ceased to be active, and this leaves the Canteen wholly under Communist domination.

Source A further stated that at the beginning the Communists attempted to force mixed dancing on the floor of the Canteen between whites and Negroes, but this caused serious dissension and they have now dropped this feature. He stated, however, that it is common knowledge in the Hollywood area that the Canteen has become a meeting place where young Communist girls contact prospects for propaganda purposes and arrange for parties and gatherings on the outside. These girls volunteer to work or entertain at the Canteen for this purpose. He further stated that the workers in the various unions who originally donated their manual services in serving and helping in the Canteen and who do not like anything communistic, openly state that it is a Communist venture and refuse to have anything to do with it.

Source A further informed that Warner Brothers some time ago made a picture based on this Canteen. After some dispute with the Screen Actors Guild over the services of its members who appeared in the picture at a less salary than they were accustomed to receiving, an adjustment was made and it was agreed that the Canteen would receive \$250,000 as an initial payment and 40% of the gross revenue from the picture after release, which is to be on December 20, 1944.

On December 14 a check for \$250,000 was presented by Warner Brothers to JOHN GARFIELD, Vice President of the Canteen. GARFIELD has a long record of Communist activity and at one time was the head of the Young Communist League.

The "Hollywood Reporter" for December 1, 1944, under the heading, "Elmer Davis Tells Intricate Problems Facing Film Biz," stated in part that the film industry has already done a great job in the war effort, but information pictures will be called upon to spearhead a forum of education on far more complex problems in the future. This significant statement was made by ELMER DAVIS, OWI director, at the third annual meeting of the War Activities Committee. DAVIS said that the picture business's biggest chore ahead is to organize the U.S. and the rest of the world for victory and peace. He said that films will be needed to publicize clearly and graphically the intricate problems of lend-lease, international diplomatic progress, and postwar unemployment.

Captain GENE MARKEY, head of the Navy Film Bureau, referred to the danger of complacency and warned that ten million Japs must still be eradicated. MARKEY also asked for more creative ideas from Hollywood. Colonel CURTIS D. MITCHELL, Army Public Relations, Major ORTON HICKS,

distribution head of Overseas Motion Picture Service, and TED GAMBLE, National Director of War Finance Division of the Treasury, also spoke. Major HICKS pointed out that features of a religious theme were well received by the men overseas.

"Variety" for November 30, 1944, stated that arbitrary action of RICHARD WALSH, President of the IATSE, has been holding up speedy settlement of the union jurisdictional row over studio set directors, it was disclosed by E. P. LINDELOF, last night as head of the Brotherhood of Painters prepared to leave New Orleans for headquarters in Lafayette, Indiana. LINDELOF declared WALSH first objected to dispute being handled by War Labor Board and then objected to its being decided by WILLIAM GREEN, President of the American Federation of Labor.

The "Los Angeles Examiner" for December 15, 1944, under the heading, "\$250,000 Paid for Canteen Film Right," stated that payment of \$250,000 for the right to make a motion picture based on that servicemen's recreation center was made yesterday to the HOLLYWOOD CANTEEN by Warner Brothers. "The check for that amount was presented in his office by JACK L. WARNER, vice president and executive producer of the film company, to JOHN GARFIELD, Canteen vice president, who accepted it in the absence from the city of BETTE DAVIS, Canteen president."

The "Labor Herald" for December 13, 1944, under the heading, "List Stars in 'Canteen' Film," stated the following: "Cast of 62 stars appearing in 'Hollywood Canteen,' which opens at Warners Hollywood, Downtown and Wilburn Theaters next Wednesday, includes the Andrews Sisters, Jack Benny, Joe E. Brown, Eddie Cantor, Jack Carson, Joan Crawford, Bette Davis, Faye Emerson, John Garfield, Sydney Greenstreet, Alan Hale, Joan Leslie, Peter Lorre, Ida Lupino, Barbara Stanwyck, Dennis Morgan, Roy Rogers and 'Trigger.'"

The "Hollywood Reporter" for December 5, 1944, under the heading, "'Hollywood Canteen' Smash All-Star Entertainment," stated:

"Ranking high on the lists of Hollywood's proud achievements in helping to win this war is the warm-hearted welcome extended to servicemen who visit the film capital. Nowhere has hospitality been more generously proffered than at the Hollywood Canteen, an all-star recreational center which first opened its doors on Oct. 3, 1942. Within less than a year, the one millionth guest had been entertained and appreciative GI Joes carried the fame of the volunteer enterprise to every corner of the globe. Now comes the picture, 'Hollywood Canteen,' to celebrate further the magnificent job accomplished by indefatigable representatives of the public-spirited motion picture industry.

"~~DELMER~~ DAVES wisely decided to minimize the fictional story he has to tell against the background of Hollywood Canteen activities. He created only three leading characters, a bashful GI names Slim and his sergeant pal returned from action in New Guinea, and a pretty little studio messenger girl they mistake for a movie starlet. Nearly all the rest of his people are show business personalities who appear as themselves. Maintaining proper balance in spotlighting the wealth of talent is a major credit for the admirable direction by Daves. The smoothness of his flow of continuity is matched by delightful incoherences that amusingly enliven the romantic interludes of Slim's meeting Joan Leslie, the girl of his dreams. If there are to be cuts in the film, that runs two hours and six minutes, the jungle prologue could stand the most editing. Not much can be sacrificed from the Canteen sequences which have something for practically every taste.

"BETTE DAVIS and JOHN GARFIELD take their familiar places in the proceedings reenacting their real-life positions as president and vice-president of the Hollywood Canteen. Miss Davis wins admiration for the simple, unglamorized wardrobe she wears as a busy executive, and Garfield rises to pay an impressive tribute to the numerous film industry guilds and crafts cooperating in the establishment of the Canteen. The flash of Chef Milani introduces another hard-working member of the regular staff whom GI's will recognize.

"JOAN CRAWFORD is in for a memorable bit as the dancing partner the Sergeant believes looks like Joan Crawford. BARBARA STANWYCK works as a refreshment counter attendant. IDA LUPINO is a hostess, and among the many other pretty faces are to be glimpsed a whole bevy of Warner contract players, headed by ALEXIS SMITH, IRENE MANNING, FAYE EMERSON, ELEANOR PARKER, JOYCE REYNOLDS and DOLORES MORAN. Busboys and waiters include PAUL HENREID, VICTOR FRANCEN, DONALD WOODS and countless others.

"Providing roars of laughter in their brief stints are S. Z. SAKALL, who gives visiting servicemen permission to pinch his cheeks, and PETER LORRE and SYDNEY GREENSTREET teaming for a touch of comedy menace. The lookout who heralds the arrival of the millionth Canteen guest (fictionally Slim) is ALAN HALE."

The musical portion of the show is also in very capable hands. TOMMY DORSEY and his band represent the imposing roster of big names aggregations that have played at the recreational center on Cahuenga and Sunset.

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Topping the eight song numbers introduced are COLE PORTER's "Don't Fence Me In," "Sweet Dreams, Sweetheart," "Gettin' Corns for My Country."

"DENNIS MORGAN starts the refrain of 'You Can Always Tell a Yank,' a catchy novelty by E. Y. HARBURG and BURTON LANE, whereupon JOE E. BROWN takes over to carry the tune to a rousing finale. Brown is previously on to grab his share of laughs. The swell 'General Jumped at Dawn' is neatly taken care of by the Golden Gate Quartet, and the Sons of the Pioneers do the ever-popular 'Tumblin' Tumbleweeds.' Well received are JANE WYMAN and JACK CARSON dueting in 'What Are You Doin' the Rest of Your Life' by Koehler and Lane. The weakest number in the show is the one handed EDDIE CANTOR and his radio partner, NORA MARTIN, something called 'We're Having a Baby.'"

The showmanly GOTTLIEB production for Warner Brothers owes much to its technical contributions. BERT GLENNON's photography is an ace job as is the careful art direction by LEO KUTER. Bows are also rated by the musical direction by LEO F. FORBSTEIN and the editing by CHRISTIAN NYBY.

- PENDING -

L A 100-18780

UNDEVELOPED LEAD

LOS ANGELES FIELD DIVISION

AT HOLLYWOOD, CALIFORNIA: Will continue to observe the activities of the Communists who are known to be in charge of the Hollywood Canteen and of the activities at the Canteen, and will report on same.

L A 100-18780

FOIA(b) (7) - (D)

Confidential Source A



FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

Form No. 1

THIS CASE ORIGINATED AT **LOS ANGELES**

FILE NO. **100-18780**

REPORT MADE AT LOS ANGELES	DATE WHEN MADE 2/22/45	PERIOD FOR WHICH MADE 2/16, 19, 20/45	REPORT MADE BY JAMES G. FINDLAY kc
TITLE HOLLYWOOD CANTEEN			CHARACTER OF CASE INTERNAL SECURITY - C

SYNOPSIS OF FACTS:

The campaign by certain members of the Executive Board of the HOLLYWOOD CANTEEN to compel all persons participating in its activities to embrace the "Equality of Races" program has subsided and it appears now that this matter is no longer an issue but that all races in military uniform may avail themselves of the facilities of the Canteen and be at liberty to chose their own social friends and companions without restraint. The motion picture, HOLLYWOOD CANTEEN has been on the screen for some time and it has been stated that the Canteen hopes to reap a large profit from its showing, which funds will be used for some military personnel recreation project.

*cc-ani, gr
EHW-17
4/3/45*

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED
HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED
DATE 1-27-98 BY SP-12/16

- P -

REFERENCE:

Report of Special Agent JAMES G. FINDLAY, dated January 9, 1945, at Los Angeles.

DETAILS:

AT LOS ANGELES, CALIFORNIA:

Source A has informed that the HOLLYWOOD CANTEEN remains a popular place of entertainment for the military forces and they claim that more than two million persons in military uniform have passed through the doors of the Canteen. This Source further stated that the Executive Board, at the beginning, had insisted on the mixing of the races on an

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equal social footing and has allowed the matter to rest for approximately a year without reaching any positive decision in the matter, and during this time the sponsors, entertainers, and visitors have had such social contacts as the individual tastes might dictate, that the colored military personnel visit the Canteen freely and there has been no complaint in the past several months along these lines and apparently the matter will not be brought up for a final decision but allowed to remain undecided.

COMMENT ON HOLLYWOOD CANTEEN "PICTURE"

Source A has informed that a motion picture has been made of the HOLLYWOOD CANTEEN and states that the Hollywood Reporter for December 18, 1944, quoted the "New Yorker" as saying, "'Hollywood Canteen', while clearly virtuous in purpose, is certainly one of the most majestic bores ever imposed on the American people. . . There is no place like Hollywood for patting itself on the back for its admiration of the common man".

It quotes ~~WAITER~~ WINCHELL as follows: "'Hollywood Canteen' displays a starrific jamboree, running the diversion gamut from ah to zing. Listing the film's mighty names is all the praise it needs. They provide the most potent example of amusement since laughs were invented."

~~KATE~~ CAMERON writes: "It is an elaborate show with a lot of good material in it but it is presented by author-director DELMAR DAVES in such a patronizing manner as to make one blush for its complete lack of reserve in singing the praises of Hollywood. It boosts screen personages unashamedly and without a flicker of humor. The players in the picture seem constantly awed by their own gracious and hospitable entertainment of the service men".

Critic CROWTHER told Times readers: "If it's quantity you want in entertainment, that is, of the sort that is generally thrown together in all star benefit show, then 'Hollywood Canteen' is for you. As a matter of fact, you'll probably love it if you're frankly susceptible to names. . . But if it's quality you want in your entertainment and just a slight touch of dramatic grace, beware the elaborate hocus-pocus of 'Hollywood Canteen'. To be perfectly blunt about it, this film seems a most distasteful show of Hollywood's sense of its importance and what its people are doing for 'the boys'. Throughout it plainly points benignly to the wonder of 'big shots' entertaining little ones and it stretches propriety to the limit in demonstrating how human the stars are. There is no question that the Hollywood Canteen has been a most welcome haven to servicemen and that it has done a lot to help them, but this advertisement seems a most ungracious boast. Comparison of this film with 'Stage Door Canteen', a previous star show, is inevitable,

since both of them follow the same pattern--and were, in fact, both written by the same man. It is notable that the former was much more modest in its account of showfolk devoting themselves to servicemen and much more realistic in its development of a romance. It is also much more distinguished in the quality of the entertainment put out."

It quotes JOHN McMANUS from the P.M. as follows: "The variety in it is good, even fine in spots, according to one's taste in variety, but the rest is plodding, self-conscious, and, at times, just too silly for words."

ARCHER WINSTEN wrote in the Post: "Since 'Hollywood Canteen' is the West Coast opposite number of 'Stage Door Canteen', the comparison might as well be made now. 'Hollywood Canteen' rivals its predecessor only in size and the number of stars on hand. In story, variety and quality of the acts, the let down is marked. All fans who like to see 44 stars and features for the price of one will consider it a bargain worthy of a clearance sale."

Critic CREELMAN's Sun summation follows: "The Strand's new picture, 'Hollywood Canteen' has lots of things. It has good songs and pretty girls, a slim and likable love story, some hearty laughs and a chuckle or two. There is also something it has not got, a most important ingredient. Good taste is conspicuous by its absence. This is not the first time Hollywood has turned out a self-laudatory production. There was 'Four Jills in a Jeep'. The sad thing is that here all this nonsense spoiled an otherwise entertaining production. It does need a bit of editing, and from ruthless hands."

Variety for December 22, 1944 states: "Hollywood Canteen will toss its third Christmas celebration with a two-day program of entertainment, Gifts and food for the 10,000 servicemen who are expected. Top-flight talent has been recruited for both afternoon and evening sessions on day preceding and on Christmas Day. EDDIE CANTOR, SYDNEY GREENSTREET, ORSON WELLES and BILL HENDIX will be Santas. Gifts are all being paid for this year by the Canteen committee, and every serviceman guest will get one. Preparation and details will be under supervision of CAREY WILSON, IDA KOVERMAN and HARRIET PARSONS."

The Hollywood Reporter for November 7, 1944, under the heading "'Canteen' Preems in N.Y. and Hollywood Dec. 22" stated, "World premiere of Warners' Hollywood Canteen, 62-star musical special, will take place simultaneously here and in New York City December 22, Hollywood, Downtown and Wiltern get it in Los Angeles."

"Studio will give premiere full advertising, publicity, and

exploitation treatment. Searchlights, bleachers, personal appearances by many of the 62 personalities who appear in the picture, plus coast-to-coast broadcast from lobby of Hollywood, are planned."

The Los Angeles Times dated December 10, 1944, under the heading, "Noted Hollywood Canteen to Live", stated: "Hollywood Canteen, which has grown to be a nationally famous institution for providing enjoyment and relaxation for the serviceman, will have a big postwar destiny, according to the plans of its sponsors."

It quotes JOHN GARFIELD as saying that "they have a long range planning program. The first duty of the Canteen is to the man who is in the service and who needs a place to go to during his periods of leave from active duty."

"Probably 2,000,000 servicemen have visited the canteen in its slightly more than two years of existence."

"GARFIELD stated that the credit is due largely to the thirty-eight guilds and unions whose representatives have done the work and JULES STEIN has been an important factor in the management."

"It is the members of the guilds and unions who should profit first in the postwar benefits, though we hope to make the scope of our helpfulness much broader. How far we can go is purely a question of money."

"We may create an institution that will be a counterpart of the Studio Club, which has so long fostered young women arriving in Hollywood with ambitions for a career. This would take the form of a men's club of similar character."

"We unquestionably will attempt to set the veterans back on their feet again in civilian life, especially those connected with pictures. What we do for servicemen now or in the future will never have the word charity affixed to it."

"Our greater program will be made possible through the revenue we anticipate from the picture, 'Hollywood Canteen'. We are to receive forty per cent of gross revenue."

"In view of the fact that the picture, 'Stage Door Canteen', in the profits of which we participated, grossed seven million dollars, you can see what our potential reserve may be by the time 'Hollywood Canteen' is fully distributed. We believe that 'Hollywood Canteen' will pile up a greater gross even than 'Stage Door Canteen'. A figure of four millions dollars or more as our share is not therefore beyond the realm of conjecture."

"We took a chance, because we believed in an idea. It has worked out amazingly during wartime, we believe it can be carried far beyond that."

Variety for December 8, 1944, under the heading, "Lesser Heading for France on his 'Paris Canteen'", stated that SOL LESSER plans to go to France soon after New Year's to supervise preliminary production shots of the Paris Canteen, which by then will have been established by the American Theatre Wing. Backgrounds and personalities will be for use in his projected picture, 'Paris Canteen', a film dealing with the French rendezvous for Allied servicemen will be sequel to LESSER's 'Stage Door Canteen'."

The Los Angeles Times for February 9, 1945, under the heading "Directors Vote \$25,000 To Hollywood Canteen", stated that presentation of \$52,000 to the Hollywood Guild Canteen to help support its operation for the next year has been voted by the directors of the Hollywood Canteen, it was announced yesterday."

"President BETTE DAVIS, JULES STEIN, Business Manager of the directorate, recommended financial help to the Guild Canteen, as found necessary by the Hollywood Canteen financial committee."

This article also stated that the following persons were elected officers for the ensuing year:

BETTE DAVIS, President
MERVYN LEROY, Vice-President
J. K. WALLACE, Vice-President
JOHN GARFIELD, Vice-President
CARROLL HOLLISTER, Vice-President
Mrs. JOHN FORD, Vice-President
CAREY WILSON, Treasurer
JEAN LEWIN, Executive Secretary.

JOHN GARFIELD is a Key Figure in the Los Angeles area and is known to have been a member of the Young Communist League. He is believed to be a member of the Communist Party and more recently, the Communist Political Association, but record evidence of this is not available.

CARROLL HOLLISTER is a Key Figure in the Los Angeles area and the Los Angeles Office has a record of his membership in the Communist Party.

JEAN LEWIN is a Communist and is known to be a member of Branch N-1, Northwest Section, Los Angeles County Communist Political Association.

-PENDING-

LA 100-18780

UNDEVELOPED LEADS

THE LOS ANGELES FIELD DIVISION:

AT LOS ANGELES, CALIFORNIA:

Will continue to observe the activities of the Communists who are known to be in charge of the Hollywood Canteen and of the activities of the Canteen and will report on same.

LA 100-18780

CONFIDENTIAL

SOURCE A



FOIA(b) (7) - (D)

-7-

EHW:IT

100-259318 -13

SAC, Los Angeles

April 19, 1945

John Edgar Hoover - Director, Federal Bureau of Investigation

HOLLYWOOD CANTEEN

Internal Security - C

A review has been made of the files of the Bureau concerning the captioned organization. It is noted that there is no information appearing herein that Communists have attempted to use this organization to infiltrate the armed forces or to spread propaganda. It is noted, however, that the officers of the club do have Communistic connections in some instances, although there is no indication that these officers have attempted to carry out Communistic activity in the Hollywood Canteen.

Accordingly, it is desired that this matter be placed in a closed status subject to being reopened in the event pertinent information is forthcoming from established sources in the future.

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED
HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED
DATE 2/9/01 BY 39063 EMB/SP/14

Mr. Tolson
Mr. E. A. Tamm
Mr. Clegg
Mr. Coffey
Mr. Glavin
Mr. Ladd
Mr. Nichols
Mr. Rosen
Mr. Tracy
Mr. Carson
Mr. Egan
Mr. Hendon
Mr. Pennington
Mr. Quinn Tamm
Mr. Nease
Gandy

60 APR 24 1945

FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

Form No. 1

THIS CASE ORIGINATED AT

LOS ANGELES

FILE NO.

100-18780

REPORT MADE AT LOS ANGELES	DATE WHEN MADE 4/26/45	PERIOD FOR WHICH MADE 4/18, 21, 24/45	REPORT MADE BY JAMES O. FINDLAY /jes
TITLE HOLLYWOOD CANTEN			CHARACTER OF CASE INTERNAL SECURITY - C

SYNOPSIS OF FACTS:

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED
HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED
DATE 2/2/01 BY 3343 EJA/RL

There have been no changes in the officers or the executive board recently. The canteen management has apparently abandoned the "equality of races" program. There appears to be a very favorable opinion of Russia being created by emphasizing the part which Russia has played in the war. The earnings of the picture "Hollywood Canteen" are nearing the one million dollar mark for the benefit of the canteen.

- C -

REFERENCE:

Bureau File Number 100-259318.
Bureau letter dated April 19, 1945.
Report of Special Agent JAMES O. FINDLAY dated 2/22/45 at Los Angeles.

DETAILS:

AT LOS ANGELES, CALIFORNIA

Source A has advised that the official set-up of the Hollywood Canteen program has not changed, that it is the same as that which appeared in the report of reference.

This source also informs that there has been no change in the method of operation, in the relations of the organization toward the servicemen and women who visit the canteen for sightseeing and recreation; that at the beginning of the canteen an attempt was made by Communists and the Communist elements to require mixed racial dancing and other fraternization of the various races and peoples. Source further advised that from

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all appearances and reports this has been discontinued.

This source further advised that some attempts have been made in the past to distribute literature, books and pamphlets about which complaint was made to the management and this was discontinued.

Source A has further informed that there has been some rumor that a practice has grown up of having girls who act as "hostesses" meet with soldiers and sailors for the purpose of spreading information to build up a favorable opinion of Soviet Russia and the part that country is playing in the war. Source stated, however, that there was no direct propaganda for Communism as such, but the general impression was conveyed that Communists should be recognized as playing a strong part in the present war effort and that they might not be such bad people if they were only understood.

Source A further informed that the Hollywood Canteen is now seeking to make arrangements with the Stage Door Canteen in New York City for a joint radio program if a sponsor can be found. The proceeds of the program are to go to both organizations for the upkeep of the organizations. Source stated, however, that this proposal has not so far been sufficiently developed to be able to ascertain the program that is being proposed. Source advised, however, that the Hollywood Canteen is becoming more and more commercialized since the income from the motion picture, "Hollywood Canteen" is running into a large sum.

The "Los Angeles Times" for February 9, 1945 quoted CAREY WILSON, treasurer of the Hollywood Canteen's financial committee, as reporting that the operation of the Hollywood Canteen for 1944 totaled \$141,128.00. It stated that WILSON had announced that the organization had received \$438,022.00 from the motion picture "Stage Door Canteen" and \$250,000.00 from Warner Brothers as an advance on earnings of "Hollywood Canteen". He also reported that the canteen would receive forty per cent of the net earnings of "Hollywood Canteen".

The article stated that the Hollywood Canteen accommodates hundreds of thousands of servicemen annually and operates three hundred and sixty-five days per year.

- CLOSED -

L. A. 100-18780

CONFIDENTIAL SOURCES

Source A



FOIA (b) (7) - (D)